MARVEL MYSTERY COMICS

OCT. No. 88

10¢

WE CERTAINLY DESERVE THIS PERIOD OF RELAXATION AFTER EVERYTHING THAT HAPPENS TO US INSIDE THIS MAGAZINE!
Featuring:
THE HUMAN TORCH
THE BLONDE PHANTOM
THE SUB-MARINER
AND
THE SUN GIRL
AMERICA'S GREATEST CHARACTERS IN AMERICA'S MOST THRILLING STORIES!

The Most Amazing Factory-To-You Introductory Offer Ever Made to Our Magazine Readers

Not One... Not Two... But ALL 3

Yes, This Perfectly Matched 3 PIECE POCKET SET

New automatic machinery inventions and manufacturing methods now turn out GORGEOUS fountain pens, ball pens and mechanical pencils with wear production economies unheard of 2 months ago! These tremendous savings passed on factory-to-you. Even when you SEE and USE, you won't believe such beauty, such expert workmanship, such instant and dependable writing service possible at this ridiculous price! Competition says we're raving mad. Decide for yourself at our risk.

WITH YOUR NAME ENGRAVED ON ALL THREE WRITING INSTRUMENTS IN GOLD LETTERS . . . Factory To You

$1.69

ILLUSTRATIONS ARE APPROX. ACTUAL SIZE

1 FOUNTAIN PEN

Fashionable gold plate HOODED POINT writes velvet smooth as bold or fine as you prefer . . . can't leak feed guarantees steady ink flow . . . always moist point writes instantly . . . no clogging . . . lever filler fills pens to top without pumping . . . deep pocket clip safeguards against loss.

2 BALL POINT PEN

Has identical ball point found on $15 pens . . . NO DIFFERENCE! Rolls new 1948 indelible dark blue ball pen ink dry as you write. Makes 10 carbon copies. Writes under water or high in planes. Can't leak or smudge. Ink supply will last up to 1 year depending on how much you write. Refills at any drug store. Deep pocket clip.

3 MECHANICAL PENCIL

Grips standard lead and just a twist propels, repels, expels. Shaped to match fountain pen and ball pen and feels good in your hand. Unscrews in middle for extra lead reservoir and eraser. Mechanically perfect and should last a lifetime!

10-DAY HOME TRIAL

FULL YEAR'S GUARANTEE

DOUBLE MONEY BACK OFFER

SEND NO MONEY — MAIL COUPON

Yet, only the latest manufacturing equipment and inventions could possibly cut production costs to bring a perfectly matched factory-to-you value like this. The matched barrels are practically unbreakable. Unheard of beauty, unheard of service, unheard of price and your name in gold letters on all three writing instruments as our special introductory gift if you mail coupon now! Send no money! On arrival deposit only $1.69 plus C.O.D. postage on the positive guarantee you can return not for any reason in 10 days and your $1.69 refunded. Could any offer be more fair? Then mail coupon today and see for yourself a new day is here in writing instrument value!

M.P.K. COMPANY, Dept. 54J
179 North Michigan, Chicago 1, Illinois

Matched perfectly in polished, gleaming colorful lifetime plastic. Important, we will pay you double your money back if you can equal this offer anywhere in the world! More important, you use 10 days then return for full cash refund if you aren't satisfied for any reason. Most important, all three, fountain pen, ball pen, and pencil, are each individually guaranteed in writing for one year (they should last your lifetime). Full size. Beautiful. Write instantly without clogging. The greatest most amazing value ever offered. Your name in gold letters on all three if you act now. Mail the coupon to see for yourself.

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SPECIAL OFFER COUPON

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179 N. Michigan Ave., Chicago 1, Illinois

Okay, "mighty nice", have all three PERFECTLY MATCHED FOUNTAIN PEN, BALL PEN and MECHANICAL PENCIL with my name engraved in gold letters. During year's guarantee certificate. I'll pay $1.69 plus few cents postage on guarantee I can return at after 10 day trial for cash refund. (I'll be advance and we pay postage)

ENGRAVE THIS NAME ON ALL 3 PIECES:

_____
(Print plainly . . . avoid mistakes)

Send to (NAME) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____

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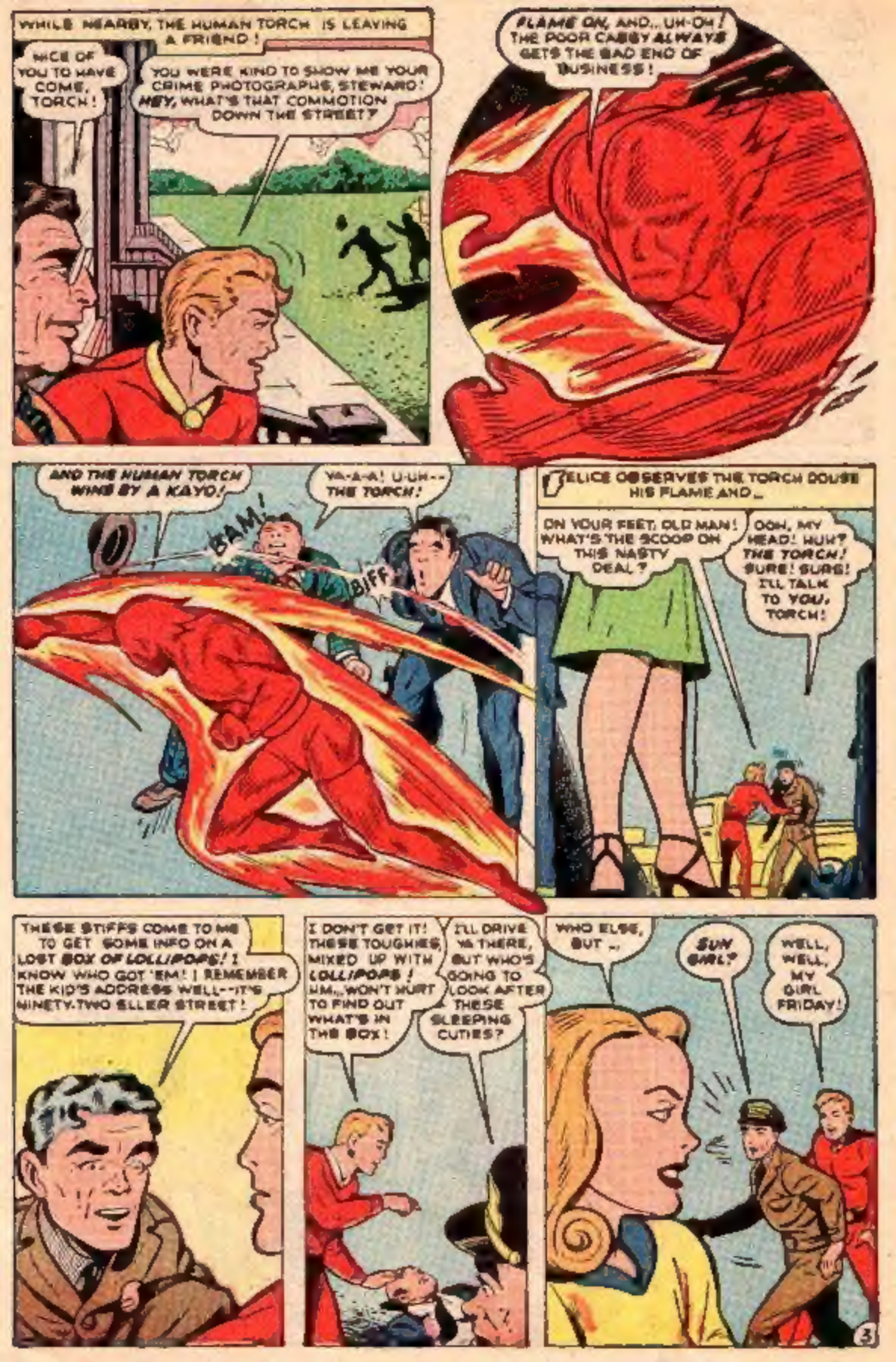
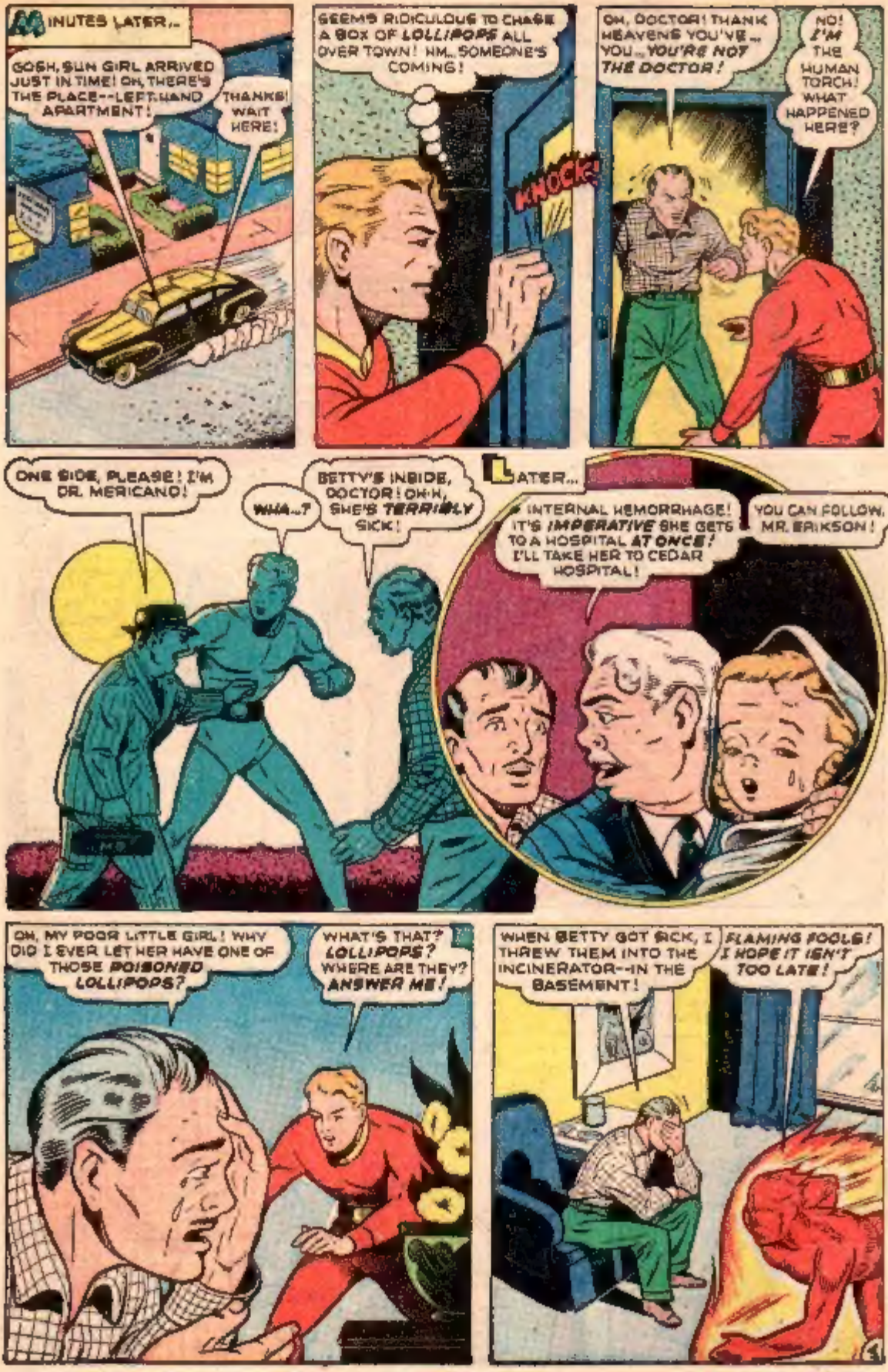
THE HUMAN TORCH
And
"THE LETHAL LOLLIPOPS!"
I CAN'T OPERATE! I CAN'T! I HAVEN'T PERFORMED SURGERY FOR YEARS! SUPPOSE I MAKE A MISTAKE! THIS CHILD'S LIFE IS TOO MUCH FOR ME TO GAMBLE WITH!
YOU MUST OPERATE, DR. GERRALD! YOU HAVE NO CHOICE... BESIDES, IT IS BECAUSE OF YOU THAT SHE LIES THERE DYING!
OH, MY POOR LITTLE GIRL! HOW COULD I HAVE KNOWN WHAT WOULD HAPPEN TO HER WHEN SHE ATE THOSE LOLLIPOPS? NOW WHAT'S GOING TO BECOME OF HER? WHAT? WHAT?
3328
CAB UNLOADS ITS PASSENGERS ON THE OUTSKIRTS OF TOWN...
KEEP THE CHANGE, DRIVER!
OOH, DADDY! LOOK AT THE BOX OF LOLLIPOPS I FOUND IN THE TAXI!
TAXI
WELL, WHAT A WONDERFUL FIND! I'M SURE NO ONE WILL MISS THEM, BETTY!
AN' BESIDES, THEY TASTE SUPER!

WHILE IN ANOTHER PART OF TOWN, LOSS OF THE LOLLIPOPS HAS MORE SERIOUS CONSE-QUENCES!
FELICE, YOU FOOL! THAT BOX OF CANDY CAME SAFELY FROM ENGLAND AND YOU COULDN'T KEEP IT FOR FORTY MINUTES!
I'M SORRY, FATHER!
I PICKED IT UP AT THE POST-OFFICE AND THEN MADE SOME PURCHASES! I-I MUST HAVE LEFT THE LOLLIPOPS IN THE TAXI!
GOSH, DAD, EVER SINCE YOU QUIT YOUR SURGICAL PRACTICE, YOU...
BAH! DON'T GIVE ME A SERMON! MIKE! FELIX! COME IN HERE!
YOU CALLED, DR. GERRALD?
YES! I WANT YOU TO HELP FELICE OUT OF A NASTY HABIT OF LOSING THINGS! FIND THAT CAB, MY DEAR! FELIX AND MIKE WILL TAKE CARE OF THE REST!
EVERAL HOURS LATER...
THAT'S THE CAB DRIVER!
OKAY! KEEP OUT OF SIGHT! WE'LL PLAY WITH HIM!
LOOK, GUY, WE'VE GOT SOME QUESTIONS TO ASK ABOUT A BOX OF LOLLIPOPS LEFT IN YOUR CAB--AND NO CRACKS!
HEY! GET YOUR HANDS OFF ME!
I DON'T FEEL A BIT SOCIABLE TODAY!
POW!
OOH!


WHILE NEARBY, THE HUMAN TORCH IS LEAVING A FRIEND!
NICE OF YOU TO HAVE COME, TORCH!
YOU WERE KIND TO SHOW ME YOUR CRIME PHOTOGRAPHS, STEWARD! HEY, WHAT'S THAT COMMOTION DOWN THE STREET?
FLAME ON, AND.. UH-OH! THE POOR CABBY ALWAYS GETS THE BAD END OF BUSINESS!
AND THE HUMAN TORCH WINS BY A KAYO!
BAM!
YA-A-A! U-UH-- THE TORCH!
BIFF
FELICE OBSERVES THE TORCH DOUSE HIS FLAME AND..
ON YOUR FEET, OLD MAN! WHAT'S THE SCOOP ON THIS NASTY DEAL?
OOH, MY HEAD! HUH? THE TORCH! SURE! SURE! I'LL TALK TO YOU, TORCH!
THESE STIFFS COME TO ME TO GET SOME INFO ON A LOST BOX OF LOLLIPOPS! I KNOW WHO GOT 'EM! I REMEMBER THE KID'S ADDRESS WELL--IT'S NINETY-TWO ELLER STREET!
I DON'T GET IT! THESE TOUGHIES, MIXED UP WITH LOLLIPOPS! HM.. WON'T HURT TO FIND OUT WHAT'S IN THE BOX!
I'LL DRIVE YA THERE, BUT WHO'S GOING TO LOOK AFTER THESE SLEEPING CUTIES?
WHO ELSE, BUT ..
SUN GIRL?
WELL, WELL, MY GIRL FRIDAY!
3

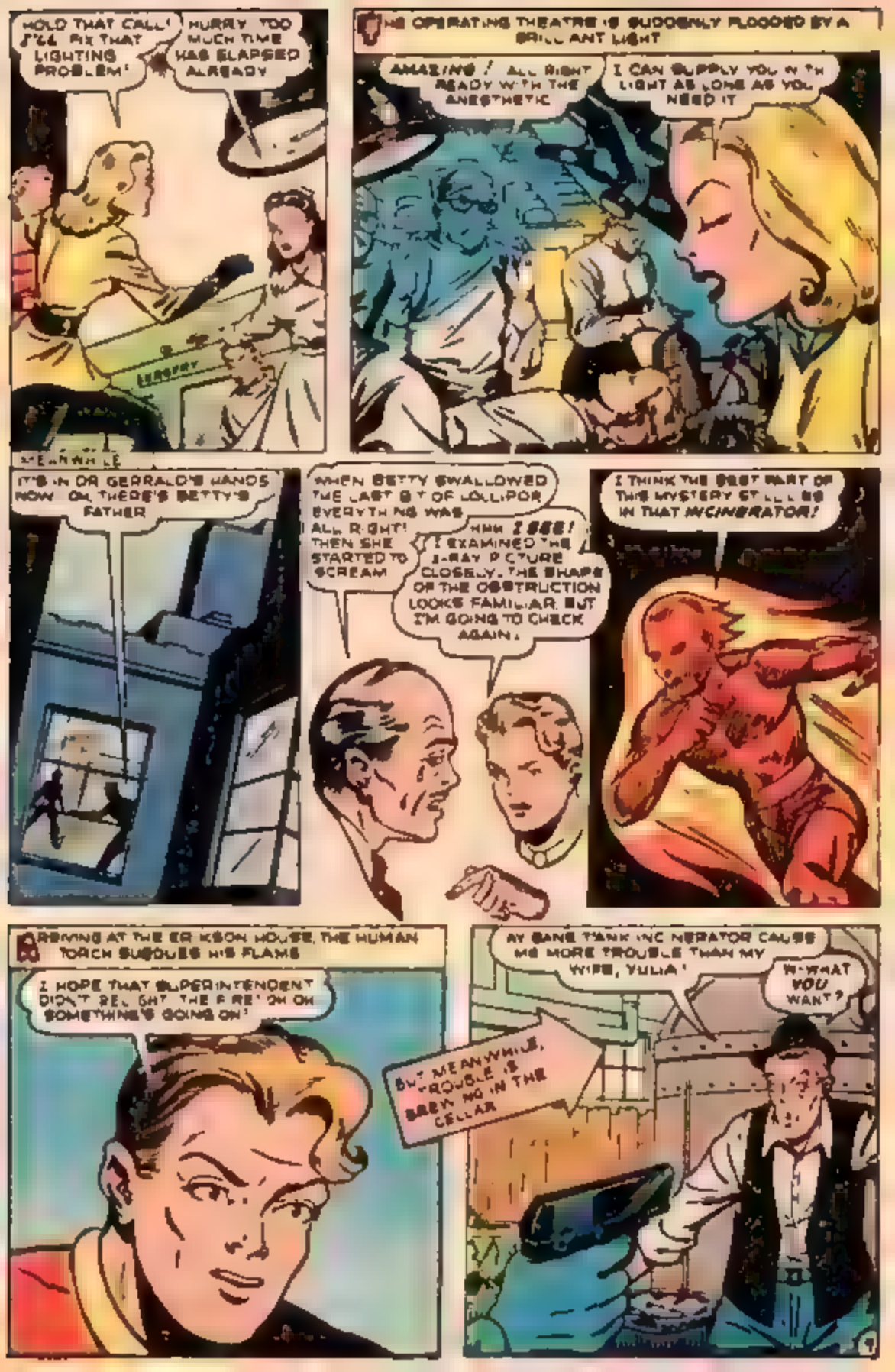

MINUTES LATER...
GOSH, SUN GIRL ARRIVED JUST IN TIME! OH, THERE'S THE PLACE--LEFT-HAND APARTMENT!
THANKS! WAIT HERE!
SEEMS RIDICULOUS TO CHASE A BOX OF LOLLIPOPS ALL OVER TOWN! HM... SOMEONE'S COMING!
KNOCK!
OH, DOCTOR! THANK HEAVENS YOU'VE... YOU... YOU'RE NOT THE DOCTOR!
NO! I'M THE HUMAN TORCH! WHAT HAPPENED HERE?
ONE SIDE, PLEASE! I'M DR. MERICANO!
WHA...?
BETTY'S INSIDE, DOCTOR! OH-H, SHE'S TERRIBLY SICK!
LATER...
INTERNAL HEMORRHAGE! IT'S IMPERATIVE SHE GETS TO A HOSPITAL AT ONCE! I'LL TAKE HER TO CEDAR HOSPITAL!
YOU CAN FOLLOW, MR. ERIKSON!
OH, MY POOR LITTLE GIRL! WHY DID I EVER LET HER HAVE ONE OF THOSE POISONED LOLLIPOPS?
WHAT'S THAT? LOLLIPOPS? WHERE ARE THEY? ANSWER ME!
WHEN BETTY GOT SICK, I THREW THEM INTO THE INCINERATOR--IN THE BASEMENT!
FLAMING FOOLS! I HOPE IT ISN'T TOO LATE!

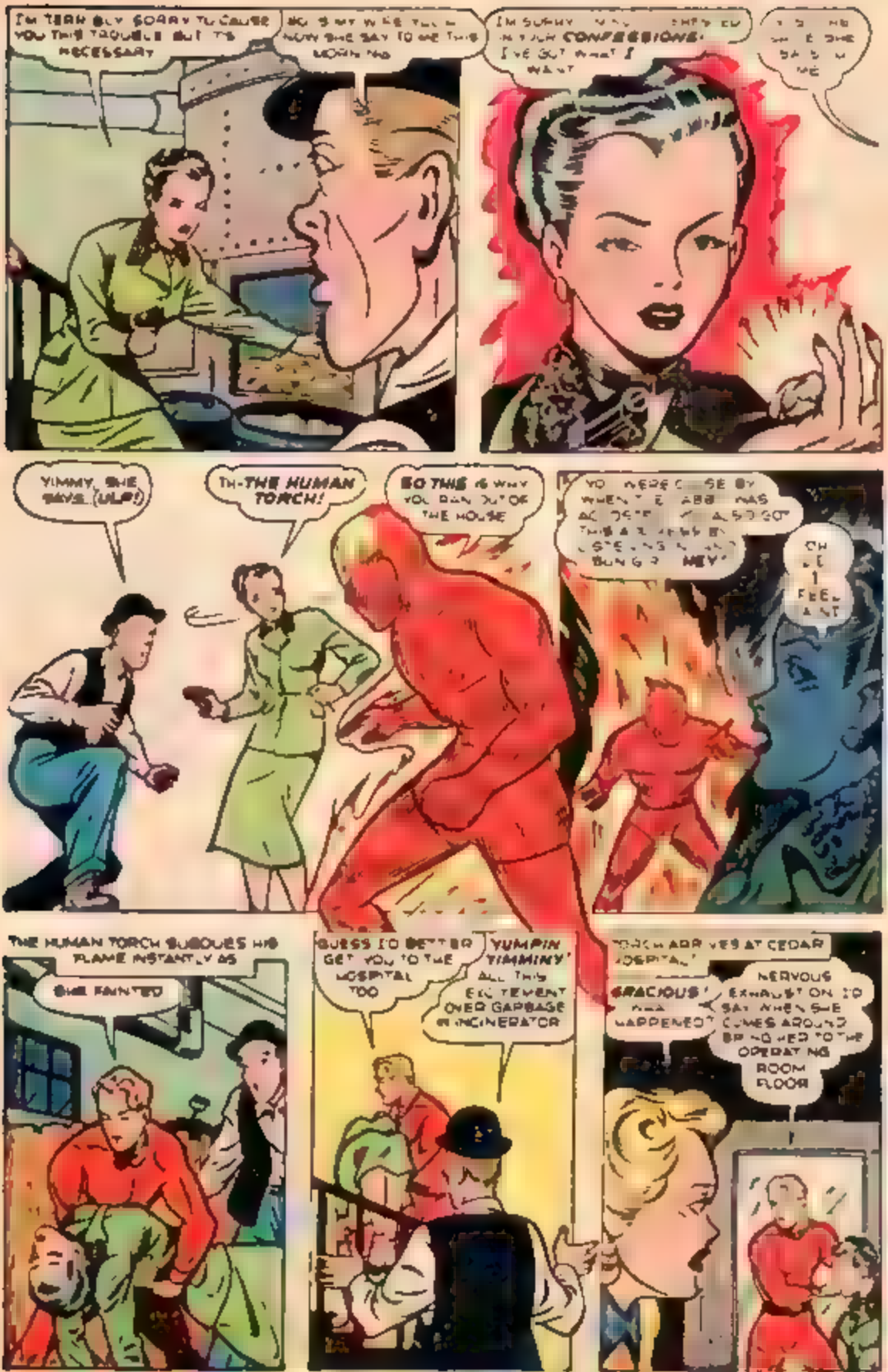
IF THEY WERE POISONED, WE CAN HAVE IT ANALYZED AND GIVE THE GIRL AN ANTIDOTE!
BUT THOSE HEMORRHAGES?
TO BASEMENT
AY BANE LIGHT UP INCINERATOR, YUST TO... WHO TH'?
GOOD GRIEF, MAN! GET THAT FIRE OUT!
THE HUMAN TORCH USES HIS FLAME POWER TO DRAW THE INCINERATOR FLAMES INTO HIS BODY, DOUSING THE FIRE!
HE BANE MAKE FIRE YUMP INTO STOMACH!
THE LOLLIPOP'S BURNT, BUT THIS SHOULD BE ENOUGH FOR ANALYSIS! LIGHT THAT FIRE AGAIN!
YUST AS YOU SAY!
I'LL PICK UP SUN GIRL ON MY WAY TO THE HOSPITAL!
YES! FUNNY THINGS GO ON IN THIS INCINERATOR!
THE HUMAN TORCH ARRIVES ON THE SCENE WHERE HE LEFT SUN GIRL--TO SEE...
SUN GIRL, WHAT HAPPENED?
OUCH! THE STARS TONIGHT... ARE BIG AND BRIGHT! ♪♪ OOOH! MY HEAD!
SORRY, TORCH, A FEMININE ERROR! SOME INNOCENT-LOOKING GLAMOUR GAL CAME UP TO ME SMILING PRETTY! NEXT THING I KNEW, IT WAS STARS--NICE, BIG ONES!
5

WE'LL BACKTRACK ON THIS LATER! MEANWHILE, LET'S GET TO THE HOSPITAL! I'LL TELL YOU ALL ABOUT IT ON THE WAY!
THOSE LOLLIPOPS ARE TURNING INTO A NICE BIG HEADACHE FOR ME!
TWENTY MINUTES LATER...
NO, TORCH, IT WASN'T THE CANDY! THIS X-RAY SHOWS A LARGE, FOREIGN OBJECT LODGED IN THE STOMACH!
WE'VE GOT TO OPERATE AT ONCE!
OPERATE?
THIS'LL BE A RARE BIT OF SURGERY! THE ONLY DOCTOR WE KNOW WHO CAN HANDLE IT IS DR. GERRALD! IT IS UNFORTUNATE THAT HE'S RETIRED FROM PRACTICE!
YEAH? GIVE ME HIS ADDRESS! I'LL GET HIM!
WITH AMAZING SPEED, THE HUMAN TORCH BLAZES TO DR. GERRALD... THE X-RAY GRIPPED IN AN UN-FLAMED HAND!
RETIRED OR NOT, DOC GERRALD IS GOING BACK IN PRACTICE AND HE'LL SAVE BETTY'S LIFE! NOW TO SUBDUE MY FLAME!
GOOD GRIEF! SOMEONE'S GOT TO BE HOME!
KNOCK! KNOCK!
SUDDENLY...
GRAB HIS FEET! I'VE GOT HIS HEAD!
UH-OH? THE TROUBLE TWINS!
DON'T WANT TO FLAME... I MIGHT BURN THIS X-RAY SHOT BY MISTAKE!
THAT GOT HIM! NOW LET'S SHOW DOC OUR CATCH!
UGH!
POW!

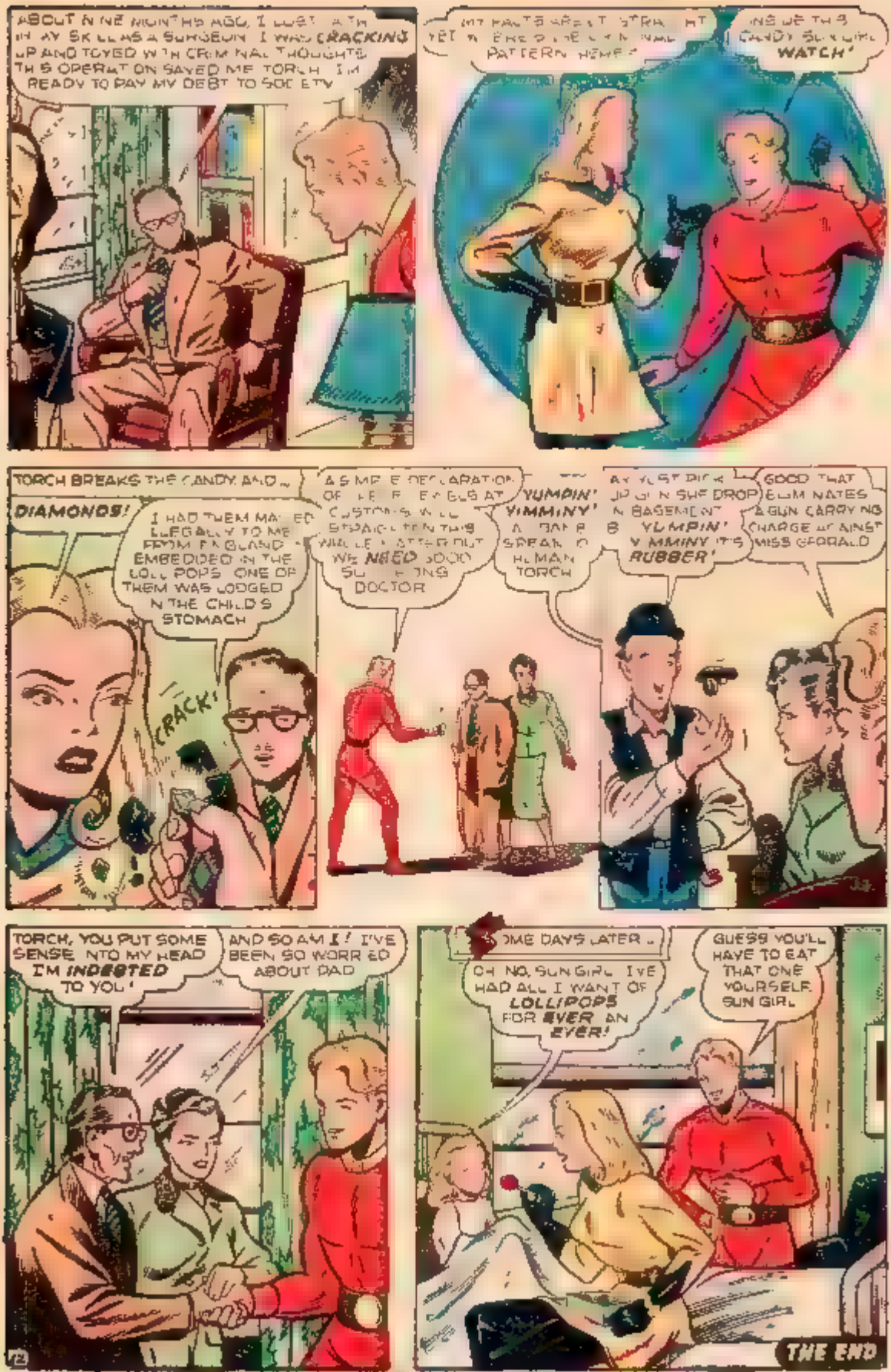
THIS SITUATION'S GETTING THICK AS MOLASSES! WHAT ARE THESE HOODLUMS DOING AT GERRALD'S PLACE? I'LL LET THEM THINK THEY'VE GOT ME!
DOC'S IN THE LIBRARY WITH HIS DAUGHTER!
YOU IDIOTS! WHY DID YOU BRING HIM HERE?
YOU COULDN'T THINK ON A SET! I HAD NO IDEA, DR. GERRALD, THAT YOU WERE CONNECTED WITH THESE MEN! WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT? THE LOLLIPOPS AND ...
I THOUGHT...
THAT-THAT'S AN X-RAY PICTURE YOU HAVE IN YOUR HAND!
RIGHT! A CHILD IS DYING AT CEDAR HOSPITAL! BECAUSE OF A LOLLIPOP SHE ATE!
A LOLLIPOP? LET ME SEE THAT X-RAY!
AN OBSTRUCTION IS LYING IN HER STOMACH! DR. MERICAND TOLD ME YOU'RE THE ONLY MAN CAPABLE OF OPERATING SUCCESSFULLY!
WHAT? ME OPERATE? I-I C-COULDN'T!
DON'T WORRY, DOC! WE'LL GET RID OF THIS GUY! AT HIM, FELIX!
I-I MUST GET OUT OF HERE!
SO! A LITTLE TEAMWORK, EH?
TEAMWORK ALWAYS REQUIRES HEADWORK! START WORKING, CHUMPS!
BOP!
7

WE'RE QUITE ALONE NOW, DR. GERRALD! DON'T YOU THINK WE SHOULD START FOR THE HOSPITAL?
I-I ... ALL RIGHT, TORCH! YOU'RE FORCING ME INTO THIS!
THIS HAD BETTER BE THE BEST OPERATION OF YOUR LIFE, DOCTOR! I'LL CALL THE POLICE TO GET YOUR SLUMBERING EXECUTIVES HERE! THEN WE'LL GET MOVING!
AT THE HOSPITAL, A TOUCHING SCENE TAKES PLACE...
TORCH, I-I HAVEN'T PERFORMED SURGERY FOR MONTHS!
MAYBE THE KID WILL CHANGE YOUR MIND! SHE'S DYING, DOCTOR!
(SOB!) PLEASE, DR. GERRALD! I--I WANT (SOB!) YOU TO OPERATE, SO I CAN GO TO SCHOOL NEXT YEAR! I-I'VE NEVER BEEN TO SCHOOL!
ALL RIGHT, BETTY, I'LL OPERATE!
GOOD MAN, DOCTOR! FOR THE NEXT HOUR OR SO, I WANT YOU TO FORGET ALL THAT HAS HAPPENED OF CRIMINAL IMPORTANCE! YOU'VE GOT A JOB AHEAD OF YOU!
TORCH, I DON'T GET IT! THE LOLLIPOPS! THOSE THUGS! DR. GERRALD! I'M CONFUSED!
SO AM I, BUT THAT GIRL'S LIFE IS MORE IMPORTANT!
SUDDENLY, A FEAR-FILLED VOICE EXCLAIMS...
NURSE, THE LIGHTS IN SURGERY HAVE BLOWN OUT!
OH, GOODNESS! I'LL CALL EMERGENCY FOR A PORTABLE LIGHTING OUTFIT!

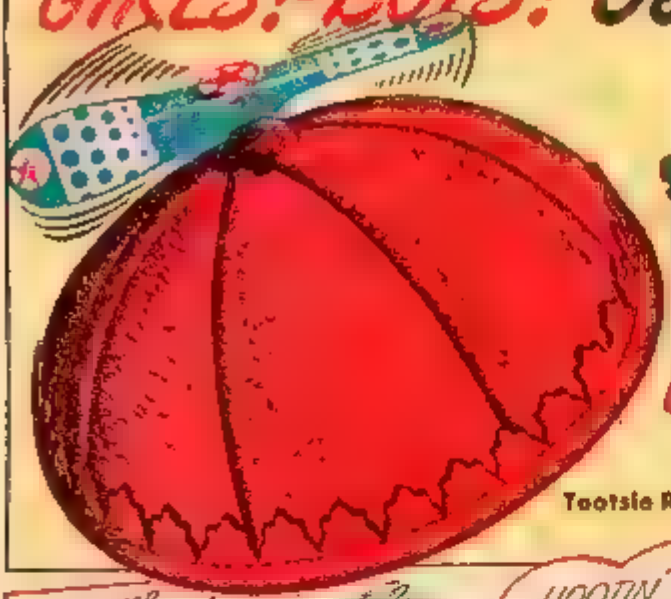

HOLD THAT CALL! I'LL FIX THAT LIGHTING PROBLEM!
HURRY TOO MUCH TIME HAS ELAPSED ALREADY
LEROY
THE OPERATING THEATRE IS SUDDENLY FLOODED BY A BRILLIANT LIGHT
AMAZING! ALL RIGHT READY WITH THE ANESTHETIC
I CAN SUPPLY YOU WITH THE LIGHT AS LONG AS YOU NEED IT
MEANWHILE
IT'S IN OR GERRALD'S HANDS NOW OH, THERE'S BETTY'S FATHER
WHEN BETTY SWALLOWED THE LAST BIT OF LOLLIPOP EVERYTHING WAS ALL RIGHT! THEN SHE STARTED TO SCREAM
HMM I SEE! I EXAMINED THE X-RAY PICTURE CLOSELY. THE SHAPE OF THE OBSTRUCTION LOOKS FAMILIAR, BUT I'M GOING TO CHECK AGAIN.
I THINK THE BEST PART OF THIS MYSTERY STILL IS IN THAT INCINERATOR!
ARRIVING AT THE ERICSON HOUSE, THE HUMAN TORCH SUBDUES HIS FLAME
I HOPE THAT SUPERINTENDENT DIDN'T RECOGNIZE THE FIRE! OH OH SOMETHING'S GOING ON!
BY GANE THANK INCINERATOR CAUSE ME MORE TROUBLE THAN MY WIFE, YULIA!
W-WHAT YOU WANT?
BUT MEANWHILE, TROUBLE IS BREWING IN THE CELLAR


I'M TERRIBLY SORRY TO CAUSE YOU THIS TROUBLE BUT IT'S NECESSARY
SO IT WAS YOU TELLING NOW SHE SAY TO ME THIS MORNING
I'M SORRY YOU HAVE TO BE IN YOUR CONFESSIONS I'VE GOT WHAT I WANT
YIMMY, SHE SAYS (ULP!)
TH-THE HUMAN TORCH!
SO THIS IS WHY YOU RAN OUT OF THE HOUSE
OH, I FEEL FAINT
THE HUMAN TORCH DISSOLVES HIS FLAME INSTANTLY AS
SHE FAINTED
GUESS I'D BETTER GET YOU TO THE HOSPITAL TOO
YUMPIN' YIMMINY! ALL THIS EXCITEMENT OVER GARBAGE INCINERATOR
GRACIOUS! WHAT HAPPENED?
NERVOUS EXHAUSTION IS WHAT SHE SAY WHEN SHE COMES AROUND BRING HER TO THE OPERATING ROOM FLOOR

IS IT OVER?
WHEW SURE IS THAT DOC GERRALD IS SO GOOD, HE COULD PUT A DISMEMBERED CORPSE BACK TOGETHER
THEN
HOW-HOW IS SHE DOCTOR?
SHE'LL LIVE, ER KSON
THE TENSION HAS A VIVID EFFECT ON SUN GIRL!
SUN GIRL! WHAT'S WRONG?
NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT NOW TORCH SOME WOMEN JUST CAN'T TAKE IT SHE HELD OUT TILL THE END, THOUGH GREAT GIRL SMELLING SALTS WILL BRING HER AROUND!
WHEW FIRST T ME IN MY LIFE I EVER FAINTED! IS IT OVER?
ALL OVER AND BETTY'LL LIVE! YOU HELPED, TOO!
WELL, WELL! IT ISN'T THE DEAR, INNOCENT, SWEET MISS WHO GLAMOROUSLY HIT ME ON THE HEAD WITH HER SHOE!
I-I'M SORRY THIS IS A DREADFUL MESS!
FELICE!
FATHER! YOU OPERATED?
YES, THANKS TO THE HUMAN TORCH I-I'M ALL RIGHT NOW I CAN PERFORM SURGERY ONCE MORE!


ABOUT NINE MONTHS AGO, I LOST MY JOB AS A SKILLED SURGEON! I WAS CRACKING UP AND TOYED WITH CRIMINAL THOUGHTS! THIS OPERATION SAVED ME TORCH! I'M READY TO PAY MY DEBT TO SOCIETY
NOT QUITE STRAIGHT YET! WHERE'S THE CRIMINAL PATTERN HERE?
INSIDE THE CANDY STORE, GIRL WATCH!
TORCH BREAKS THE CANDY AND...
DIAMONDS!
I HAD THEM MAILED ILLEGALLY TO ME FROM ENGLAND! EMBEDDED IN THE LOLLIPOPS! ONE OF THEM WAS LODGED IN THE CHILD'S STOMACH
CRACK!
A SIMPLE DECLARATION OF LEGAL EAGLE AT CUSTOMS WILL SUFFICE! MEANWHILE, I'LL TAKE THIS WHILE I'M AT IT! WE NEED GOOD SURGEONS DOCTOR
YUMPIN' YIMMINY! A BAR OF SOAP! A SPEAR O HUMAN TORCH
AT LAST PICK UP ON SHE DROPPED IN BASEMENT! YUMPIN' YIMMINY IT'S RUBBER!
GOOD THAT FROM NATES A GUN CARRY NO CHARGE AGAINST MISS GERALD
TORCH, YOU PUT SOME SENSE INTO MY HEAD! I'M INDEBTED TO YOU!
AND SO AM I! I'VE BEEN SO WORRIED ABOUT DAD
SOME DAYS LATER...
OH NO, SUN GIRL! I'VE HAD ALL I WANT OF LOLLIPOPS FOR EVER AN EVER!
GUESS YOU'LL HAVE TO EAT THAT ONE YOURSELF, SUN GIRL
THE END

GIRLS!-BOYS! Get This New BEANIE 'COPTER



Only 25¢

with any wrapper from
Tootsie Rolls, Tootsie Fudge, or Tootsie Pops

HOOTIN' ZOOTS! HERE'S A REAL GENUINE BEANIE MOUNTED WITH A 5-INCH HELICOPTER BLADE. SEE IT SPIN LIKE A CYCLONE WHEN YOU WALK OR RUN!

IT'S NEW! YOU'LL MISS LOTS OF FUN IF YOU DON'T HAVE A REAL TOOTSIE BEANIE 'COPTER!

You [illegible] action, fellows and girls, when you wear [illegible] looking new Tootsie BEANIE COPTER. Bright gaily colored [illegible] pressed [illegible], sharply scalloped around the edge and stitched. Top of the crown has a red [illegible] mounted a 5-inch helicopter blade. This blade [illegible] flies [illegible].

It's a knockout! You can get as many beanies as you want for each one sent or with 25 cents and any size wrapper from Tootsie Rolls, Tootsie Fudge, or Tootsie Pops. Rush coupon today. You'll be glad you did!

TOOTSIE ROLLS
Box 331, New York 8, N. Y.

You bet I want to be first in my neighborhood to sport a new Tootsie BEANIE 'COPTER. For each one I enclose 25¢ (in coin) and a wrapper from Tootsie Roll, Tootsie Fudge, or Tootsie Pop.

My Name [illegible] (Please Print Plainly)

My Address [illegible]

City [illegible] Zone [illegible] State [illegible]

OFFER EXPIRES OCTOBER 31 1948. SUPPLY LIMITED - FIRST COME, FIRST SERVED

Void if taxed, restricted or forbidden by law in your state or municipality
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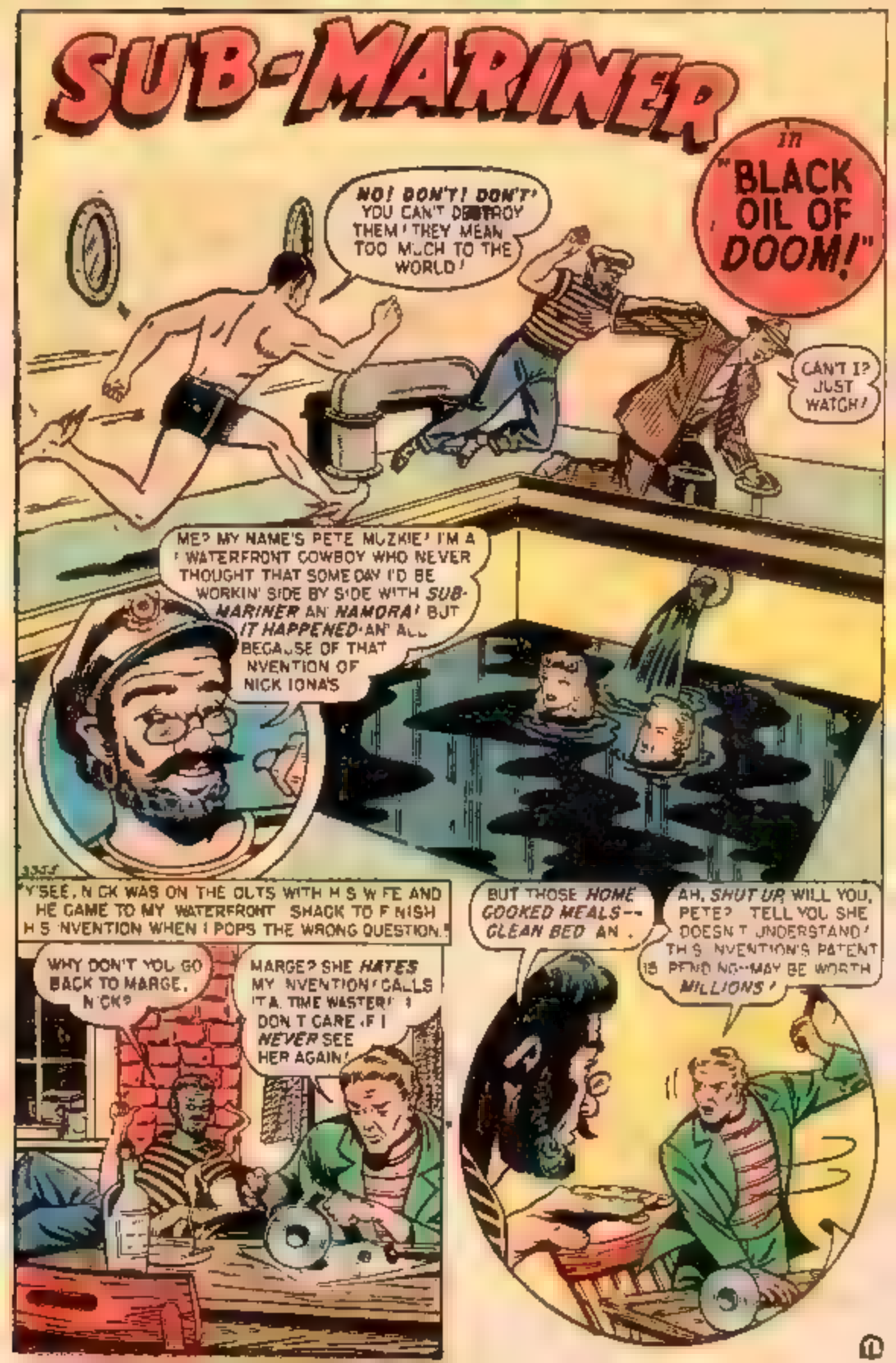
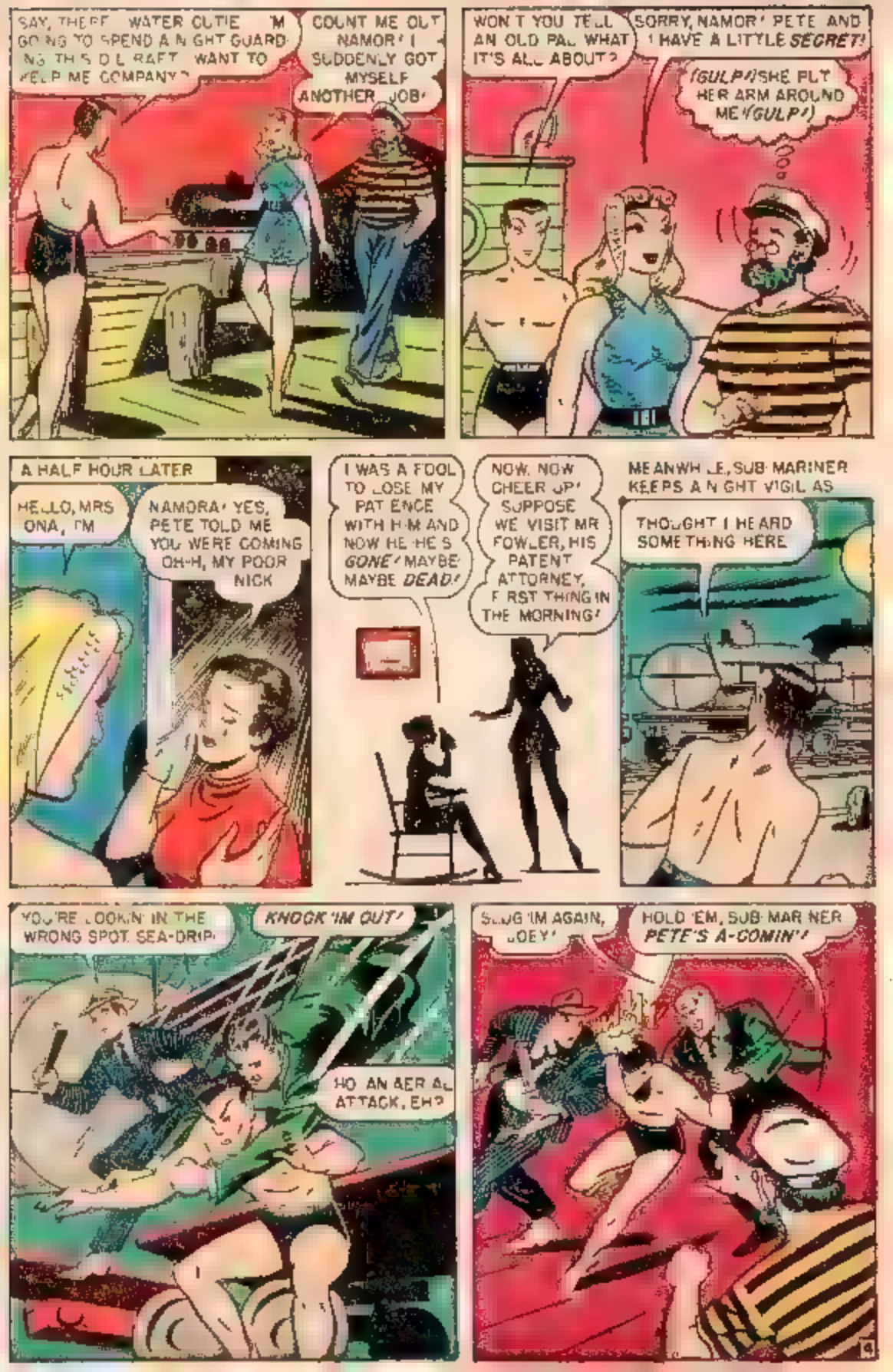

SUB-MARINER
in
"BLACK OIL OF DOOM!"
NO! DON'T! DON'T! YOU CAN'T DESTROY THEM! THEY MEAN TOO MUCH TO THE WORLD!
CAN'T I? JUST WATCH!
ME? MY NAME'S PETE MUZKIE! I'M A WATERFRONT COWBOY WHO NEVER THOUGHT THAT SOMEDAY I'D BE WORKIN' SIDE BY SIDE WITH SUB-MARINER AN' NAMORA! BUT IT HAPPENED AN' ALL BECAUSE OF THAT NVENTION OF NICK IONA'S
Y'SEE, N CK WAS ON THE OUTS WITH H S W FE AND HE CAME TO MY WATERFRONT SHACK TO F NISH H S NVENTION WHEN I POPS THE WRONG QUESTION.
WHY DON'T YOU GO BACK TO MARGE, N'CK?
MARGE? SHE HATES MY NVENTION! CALLS IT A TIME WASTER! I DON T CARE IF I NEVER SEE HER AGAIN!
BUT THOSE HOME COOKED MEALS-- CLEAN BED AN .
AH, SHUT UP, WILL YOU, PETE? TELL YOU SHE DOESN T JNDERSTAND! TH S NVENTION'S PATENT IS PEND NG--MAY BE WORTH MILLIONS!

OKAY, ED SON, OKAY! I WAS JUS HUH? SOMEONE'S KNOCKING!
KNOCK! KNOCK!
GOOD DAY! UNDERSTAND MR NICHOLAS ONA IS ER L VING HERE NOW!
LET HIM IN, PETE! IT'S MR FOWLER, MY PATENT ATTORNEY!
I'VE GOOD NEWS! A CLIENT S NTERESTED N YOUR INVENTION AND WANTS TO EXAM NE THE WORK NG MODEL IMMEDIATELY!
HA! HEAR THAT, PETE? I'M RICH! OH, BROTHER!
"IT SEEMED KINDA CRAZY TO ME TO SEE MY FRIEND SO MONEY-MAD THAT HE COULD STOP THINKIN ABOUT A SWELL GAL L KE MARGE, BUT..."
C MON, FOWLER! S'LONG, PETE! IF MARGE GALLS, TELL HER I'LL SEE HER IN RENO! HA!
HOPE YA KNOW WHAT YE RE DOIN'!
I HEAR THERE'S BEEN TROUBLE! OH, OH JEEPS WHAT'S SUB-MARINER AND NAMORA DO NG HERE?
YEP! TH NGS HAD COME TO A PRETTY SAD STATE! BUT THEY WERE MORE CONFUSING LATER, WHEN "
JEEPS! THREE WEEKS AND NOT A WORD FROM MY PAL, NICK! MARGE S WORRIED SICK AN' FOWLER SAYS NICK'S PRACTICALLY DISAPPEARED! OH, WELL! I'VE GOT TO GET TO WORK
"YEP! TH NGS HAD COME TO A PRETTY SAD STATE! BUT THEY WERE MORE CONFUS NG LATER, WHEN. "
AND YOU SAY, MISTER PORTER, THESE TANKS LEAVE THE JERSEY SIDE FILLED WITH OIL YET OVERNIGHT, SEVERAL OF THEM HAVE BEEN MYSTER OUSLY EMPTIED?
RIGHT!
2

AS TRAFFIC MANAGER FOR ALL ED OIL, I'M WORRIED! THESE CONTINUAL LOSSES COULD EASILY RUN A SMALL COMPANY LIKE THE ONE I WORK FOR!
I'M DEAD SURE THESE LOSSES TAKE PLACE AT NIGHT!
I AGREE, AND
EX-EXCUSE ME, PLEASE!
WHAT DO YOU WANT?
IT'S ABOUT MY PAL, NICK! I'D LIKE TO TALK TO SUB-MARINER ABOUT IT!
PAH! GO AWAY! WE'RE BUSY!
B-BUT I THOUGHT AW! WHAT'S THE USE?
NO ONE CARES ABOUT POOR NICK EXCEPT ME!
AND NAMORA! POOR OLD FELLOW
JUST A MINUTE! I'D LIKE TO HEAR ABOUT THIS FRIEND OF YOURS!
YOU-YOU WOULD?
MINUTES LATER.
AND THAT'S THE WHOLE OF IT, MISS NAMORA! NICE OF YA TO LISTEN!
NOT ONLY THAT, PETE, I'M GOING TO TRY TO FIND YOUR PAL FOR YOU!
3


SAY, THERE WATER CUTIE 'M GOING TO SPEND A NIGHT GUARDING THIS OIL RAFT WANT TO KEEP ME COMPANY?
COUNT ME OUT NAMOR! I SUDDENLY GOT MYSELF ANOTHER JOB!
WON'T YOU TELL AN OLD PAL WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT?
SORRY, NAMOR! PETE AND I HAVE A LITTLE SECRET!
(GULP!) SHE PUT HER ARM AROUND ME! (GULP!)
A HALF HOUR LATER
HELLO, MRS ONA, I'M
NAMORA! YES, PETE TOLD ME YOU WERE COMING OH-H, MY POOR NICK
I WAS A FOOL TO LOSE MY PATIENCE WITH HIM AND NOW HE-HE'S GONE! MAYBE MAYBE DEAD!
NOW, NOW CHEER UP! SUPPOSE WE VISIT MR FOWLER, HIS PATENT ATTORNEY, FIRST THING IN THE MORNING!
MEANWHILE, SUB-MARINER KEEPS A NIGHT VIGIL AS
THOUGHT I HEARD SOMETHING HERE
YOU'RE LOOKIN' IN THE WRONG SPOT, SEA-DRIP!
KNOCK 'IM OUT!
HOW ANGER AL ATTACK, EH?
SLUG 'IM AGAIN, JOEY!
HOLD 'EM, SUB-MARINER PETE'S A-COMIN'!

WATCH OUT, PETE!
"SAINT" PETE AFTER THIS WALLOP
WHAAA!
HUH? BIG, BRAVE SUBMARINER LAMMING IT!
PETE'S UNCONSCIOUS! HE'LL DROWN DOWN THERE!
GUESS YOU'LL BE ALL RIGHT FRIEND!
(GLUB!) CEPT MY JAW AW I SPOILED EVERYTHING! THOSE RATS GOT AWAY! (BLUB!)
FUNNY THING! THOSE THUGS KNEW WAS ABOARD THE BARGE!
R R RIGHT! AW W IF F T W W WASN'T FER M MY F FRIEND NICK, M SS N-N-NAMORA W-W-WOULD HAVE BEEN W TH YOU TONIGHT! BRRR!
THE NEXT MORNING, NAMORA AND MRS IONA V SIT FRANK FOWLER
MR IONA WALKED OUT W TH MY CLIENT AND THAT'S THE LAST I'VE HEARD OF H M
WHAT'S THE NAME OF THIS CL ENT?
M'STER BRYAN PORTER!
WHAT? QUICK! LET ME SEE THOSE PATENT DRAWINGS OF NICK'S INVENTION!
SKIMMING SEAGULLS! NO WONDER! CAN I HAVE THESE DRAWINGS SENT TO SUB MARINER?
CERTAINLY I HAVE A COPY ON FILE

MRS. ONA GET THESE DRAWINGS TO SUB-MARINER! HE'S SOMEWHERE ON PIER SEVENTEEN! HE'LL UNDERSTAND! I'VE ANOTHER ERRAND!
I'D DO ANYTHING TO FIND POOR NICK!
LATER.
THERE'S PORTER NOW! WHAT A DEAL HE'S PULLING!
SO LONG, CHARLIE! NICE MEETING YOU AGAIN!
ALLIED O...
PIER SEVENTEEN DRIVER!
RIGHT!
NAMORA TRAILS MISTER PORTER AND
WELL! THE CONTENTS OF MR PORTER'S CHARACTER IS REALLY OPEN TO SCRUTINY! HE'S ENTERING THAT TRAMP OIL TANKER DOCKED ACROSS FROM THE RAILROAD BARGE.
FOR A SPLIT, SUSPECTING SECOND, PORTER TURNS, LOOKS BACK, THEN ENTERS A BULKHEAD DOOR...
NO WONDER PORTER FLATLY CHASED PETE AWAY THAT DAY ON THE BARGE! GUESS IT'S SAFE TO ENTER!
WHA-A-?
TOO BAD YOU PUT THE PICTURE PUZZLE TOGETHER, NAMORA! YOUR INQUISITIVENESS WILL HAVE A HIGH PRICE TAG! STRAP HER UP, DAN!

WHILE NOT TOO FAR AWAY
OH, SUB-MAR NER! THEY TOLD ME YOU WERE HERE!
GREAT GUNS! IT'S MARGE, NICK'S WIFE!
NAMORA TOLD ME TO SHOW YOU THE PATENT DRAW NGS OF NICK'S NVENTION SHE SA D YOU LL UNDERSTAND
LEAP N TUNA! WHAT GOT INTO THAT GIRL? HERE, LET'S HAVE A LOOK
WELL, I'LL BE A SMOKED SARDINE! THIS EXPLA NS PLENTY! I THINK TH S MYSTERY CAN BE WOUND UP TONIGHT! AND M GHT AS WELL LET BETTY DEAN IN ON THE SCOOP!
SOMEHOW, MRS IONA, YOUR MISS NG HUSBAND FITS N WITH TH S OIL DEAL!
OHH! YOU MEAN MY NICK IS A CRIMINAL?
NO! A CRIMINAL VICTIM, I GUESS R GHT! 'LL PUT A CALL INTO BETTY'S PAPER! TAKE CARE OF MRS ONA, PETE!
SURE, MR MARINER! TOOK CARE O' NICK, DIDN T I?
THAT N GHT
I'M LOSING A NIGHT'S SLEEP FOR THIS!
THE PICTURES AND STORY WILL BE WORTH TEN SLEEPLESS N GHTS, BETTY!
THIS RAILROAD OIL TANK BARGE JUST PULLED N ! DON'T THINK OUR OIL TH EVES WILL ABANDON THE R SCHEMES!
YOU GREAT, B G, HANDSOME MAN THANKS FOR THE T P-OFF!
AHEM!

SHHH SOMEONE S COMING!
ULP!
YOU SHOULD BE MORE CAREFUL, PETE! I ALMOST WALLOPED YO...
JUST CAME ALONG T' HELP! MRS. ONA'S OKAY
GREAT GUNS! LOOK, MR. MARINER! LOOK!
WHAT IS T? O-HO!
ALL CLEAR, DAN! BRING OUT THE DRILL!
WE'LL HAVE THIS TANK EMPTIED IN NO TIME!
SHUT UP AN' LET'S GET IT OVER W TH!
THERE'S YOUR P CTURE AND STORY! GO TO IT!
SH-H! YOUR ON-THE-SPOT CRIME REPORTER IS TAK NG NOTES!
HOLD IT! THANK YOU!
HUH?
GOOD SHOT!
PICTURES!
B

THAT'S WHAT YOU CALL GETTING OIL PATENT PEND NG, EH, LUGS?
YOU'VE GOT THE ROD! GET HIM, DAN!
SUB MAR NER TUGS AT THE SUCTION CAP OF THE DRILL AND
YOU COULDN'T GET A NEWSPAPER, DANNY BOY!
UGH! IT'S WORSE THAN CASTOR OIL, UGH!
BETTER SCRAM
THERE'S YOUR CHANGE FOR REVENGE, PETE!
JEEPS! AIN'T GO N' TO M SS T!
GOT IT!
ME, TOO
WHAM!
GOOD BUTT, PETE I'LL SEE WHERE THIS HOSE GOES TO
F THERE'S A BOX OF ASPIRINS AT THE END O THE LINE, SEND EM BACK!
HO! THIS CATWALK WAS CONSTRUCTED RECENTLY LEADS RIGHT TO THE HATCHWAY OF THIS TRAMP TANKER
AS PETE WOULD SAY GREAT GUNS!
I'M SURE, NAMORA YOU'LL HAVE PAID YOUR BILL IN FULL WHEN THE OIL COVERS YOUR HEAD/AND OF COURSE, M STER ONA T LOOKS L KE THIS WILL MAKE ME SOLE OWNER OF YOUR NVENTION

I'D SAY IT MAKES YOU LOOK MORE LIKE AN IDIOT!
SUB-MARINER!
BIFF!
WHERE SE?
THIS IS FOR ALL THE TROUBLE YOU PUT US
YA-A-A-A!
CRACK!
GREAT GUNS! NICK ME OL' PAL!
PETE!
ISN'T SOMEONE GLAD TO SEE ME?
A FEW MINUTES LATER
NICK! OH MY POOR
THERE'S SOMEONE HERE WHO
MARGE!
GO NG TO ME HECK
OH, HONEY! DON'T EVER
ME AGAIN! YOU CAN WORK ON ALL THE INVENTIONS YOU WANT TO! (SMACK!)
NO PLACE FOR AN OLD WHARF DOG LIKE ME!
JUST A MINUTE! YOU'RE COMING HOME WITH US!
SURE!
JEEPS! A REAL HOME! COOKED MEALS!
AND LATER
PORTER BROKE DOWN AND CONFESSED HE HAD CHARTERED THE TRAMP OIL
THE STOLEN OIL IN SOUTH AMERICA
DOZEN PEOPLE ARE INTERESTED IN NICK'S INVENTION/SOME GADGET! DRILLS A HOLE THEN PLUGS IT UP WITH METALLIC GLUE! NO WONDER WE WERE
THE END

ROLL OUT THE BARREL

ALVIN PENN, a rookie cop, was nervous. He had been assigned to the warehouse district along the river front. The district was located on the edge of town and was the toughest beat a cop could get. The police chief's philosophy regarding rookie cops was to throw them the toughest assignments and let them learn fast.

Alvin walked around the corner of one warehouse. He stopped and shined his flashlight about. As the beam pierced the darkness, Alvin spotted a door. He'd been instructed to make sure all doors were locked so he walked over to it and turned the doorknob. He felt his nerves tense as the door swung open.

He took a deep breath and stepped inside. He played the flashlight about cautiously and walked forward slowly, straining his ears for any sound of prowlers. Suddenly he heard a footstep behind him. He whirled about with his flashlight. He saw a heavy stick cut across the beam of light —then he saw no more as the stick crashed against his skull and he sank heavily to the floor.

A hand reached down, grasped Alvin's flashlight and picked it up. Shining the light on Alvin's face, a man spoke, "He's out cold all right, Jim."

His companion snickered. "He sure is. Bet he's a rookie cop. All the rookies walk into trouble. An experienced cop would have stayed outside when he found a door open and done a little investigating before walking right into a trap."

"Yeah," said the man with the flashlight, "you're right. Well, let's drag him away and tie him up so we can get on with our work."

The two men hauled Alvin to the packing room. They wrapped heavy brown paper about a light that hung from the ceiling. It still lit up the inside of the room a bit, but the dim glow couldn't be seen from the outside through any window. They tied Alvin to a chair and took his gun and night stick. "Shall I gag him, Jim?" asked the man who had slugged him.

"Naw, Bill, he could scream his head off in this deserted area and no one would hear him." The two men left the room.

Alvin finally came to. Slowly he shook his head. But it was fully five minutes before he recovered enough to realize he was bound. Then he was disgusted with himself. His first tough assignment—and here he was helpless! He looked around the room, but he couldn't see much in the dim light. He strained at the ropes, but they were tight, too tight. Squinting, Alvin made out a tier of metal shelves—and he knew how he could get loose.

He wiggled his chair back and forth until he was beside the shelves. He twisted the chair some more and finally maneuvered himself so that his back faced the shelves. His wrists were bound behind him. He moved them up slightly and felt the rope hit the sharp edge of a shelf. He moved his wrists back and forth as much as he could, and the edge of the shelf gradually bit into the rope. In five minutes his hands were freed.

Alvin quickly undid the rest of his bindings. He stood up and stretched out the stiffness in his body and legs. Just then he heard a truck drive up to the warehouse. Cautiously he sneaked out of the packing room and went toward the outside front door, hugging the big room's dark corners. The front doors opened up, and the truck backed up to the entrance. Alvin heard voices.

"Make it snappy, Jim! We've got to get these barrels of chinaware out of here and beat it." The man called Jim began to roll barrels out of the warehouse. A third man placed a couple of

boards on the edge of the truck tailboard so that they slanted to the ground, and the barrels were rolled up this ramp and into the truck.

Alvin edged closer to the entrance. He figured out from the number of voices he'd heard that there were probably only three men. How he could attack three men, all presumedly armed, when he was unarmed, he wasn't sure.

But he quickly decided his best attack would be to hit one man, get his gun, and then fight the other two. Alvin was now within ten feet of the truck. He noticed that one man would roll a barrel out of the warehouse and a companion would help roll it up into the truck. The third man held the flashlight and gave the orders. Alvin decided to hit Jim, the man who came into the warehouse for the barrels, so he moved nearer the group that was being taken.

The man came in and tugged at a barrel. Alvin sprang forward. An arm went around Jim's neck, and a knee shot into his back. Jim gasped. Alvin reached over the man's shoulder with his free hand. He felt an automatic in a holster inside Jim's coat and quickly yerked it out. The two men outside screamed, "Someone's got Jim." They rushed in. One flung himself at Jim and Alvin who were locked together. All three rolled around in the darkness, but Alvin managed to find cover behind some barrels. Just in time—for suddenly wild shots split the darkness.

All about him Alvin could hear the smashing of china as bullets found their marks in barrels loaded with china. Then he remembered reading in the paper about some valuable rare china that had been stored in a river warehouse awaiting shipment to the west coast—*this* must be that china!

The three crooks stopped firing. One hollered out, "You'd better give in, rookie! We're three to one. And we have a gun to replace the one you swiped and plenty of ammunition. All you've got is the ammunition in that one gun!"

Alvin made no reply, and all three men again poured bullets into the air aimlessly. Alvin realized they didn't know where he was. He also realized he would have to make every one of his shots count. He couldn't fire recklessly. He must get close to the three crooks.

Alvin could hear them talking among themselves, and he knew they must be sticking together. He decided to try sneaking up on them. But as he got up to move, his shoulder hit a barrel that was balanced precariously on a piece of wood. The barrel tipped over and started to roll. The floor sloped from Alvin toward the three men. They heard him and let a volley of bullets fly in his direction. Alvin flattened out on his stomach behind some barrels. The one he'd knocked over rolled toward the crooks and crashed against the wall behind them.

One of the men hollered out, "What are you trying to do—hit us with barrels, rookie?" All of them laughed.

Alvin suddenly got an idea. He tipped over a barrel that was full of china that had been shot up and pushed it toward the crooks. Again it smashed against the wall. He sent a couple more barrels toward them; they were still roaring with laughter. Another barrel hit the wall—and then there was silence.

"Guess he's stopped rolling barrels," snickered one crook.

"Yeah," snapped a voice behind them, "and if one of you makes a move I'll drill you. I can see the outlines of your bodies."

Jim's voice quivered, "How did you get behind us?"

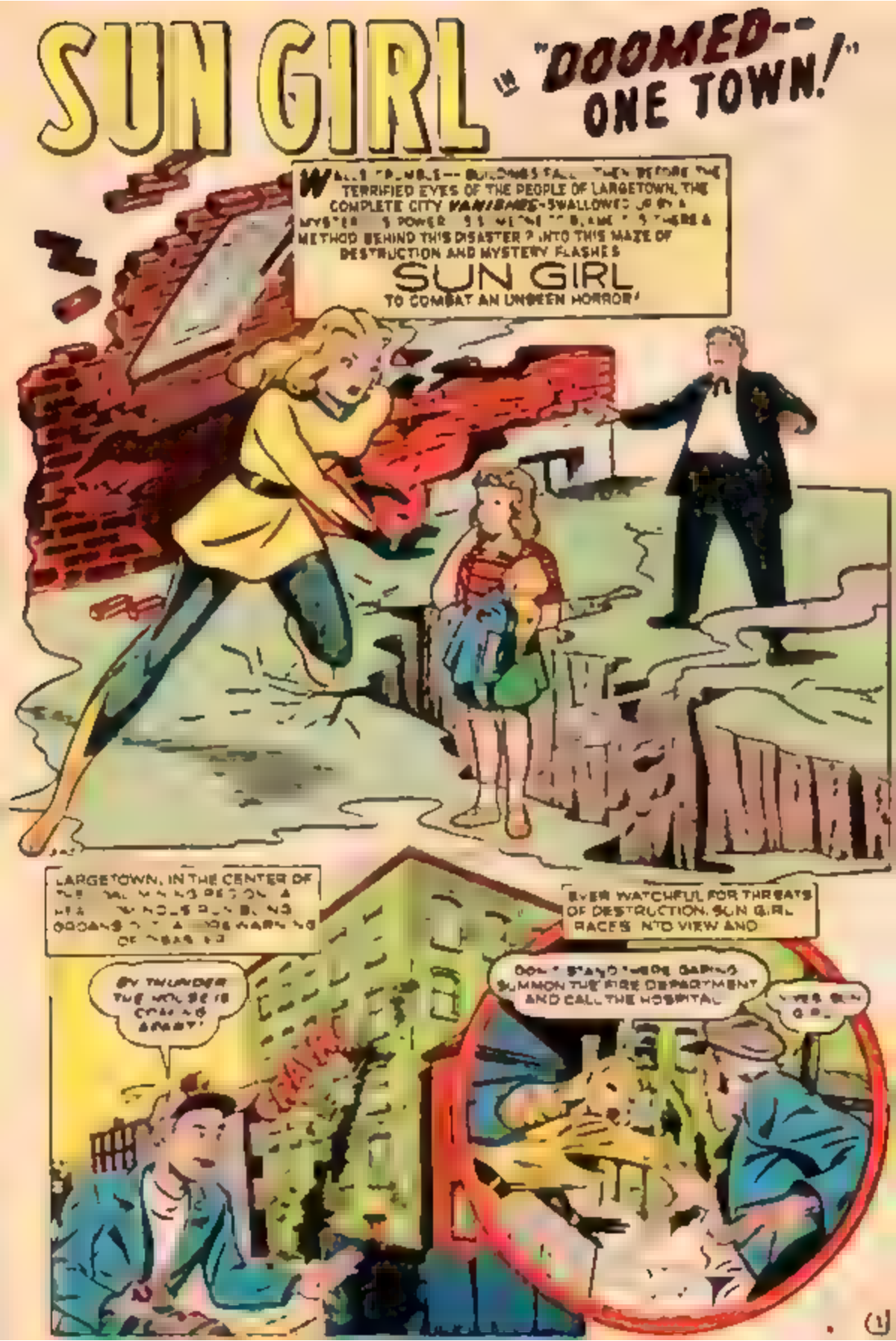
Alvin laughed. "Simple. I rolled barrels full of china at you. Then I found an empty one and got into it, started it rolling, and here I am. Now drop those guns."

Three dull thuds sounded. Alvin ordered the men to roll their flashlight back to him. They obeyed. He picked up the flashlight and turned it on the three cringing crooks, ordering them out of the warehouse.

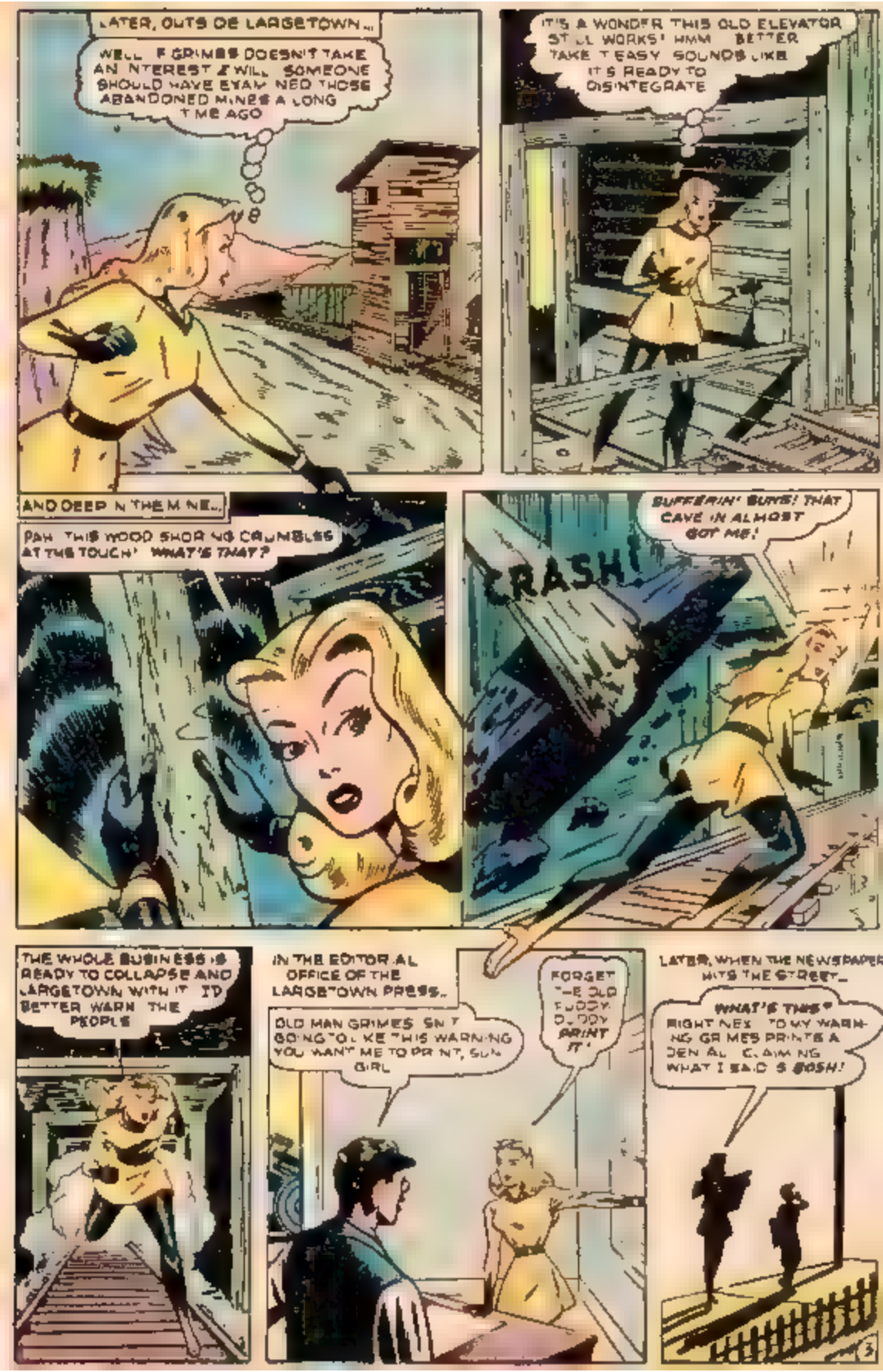
In fifteen minutes the patrol wagon picked them up. The Chief had come along on it. He shook Alvin's hand and said, "Son, you learn fast!" Alvin smiled and once again started walking his beat around the warehouses.

THE END

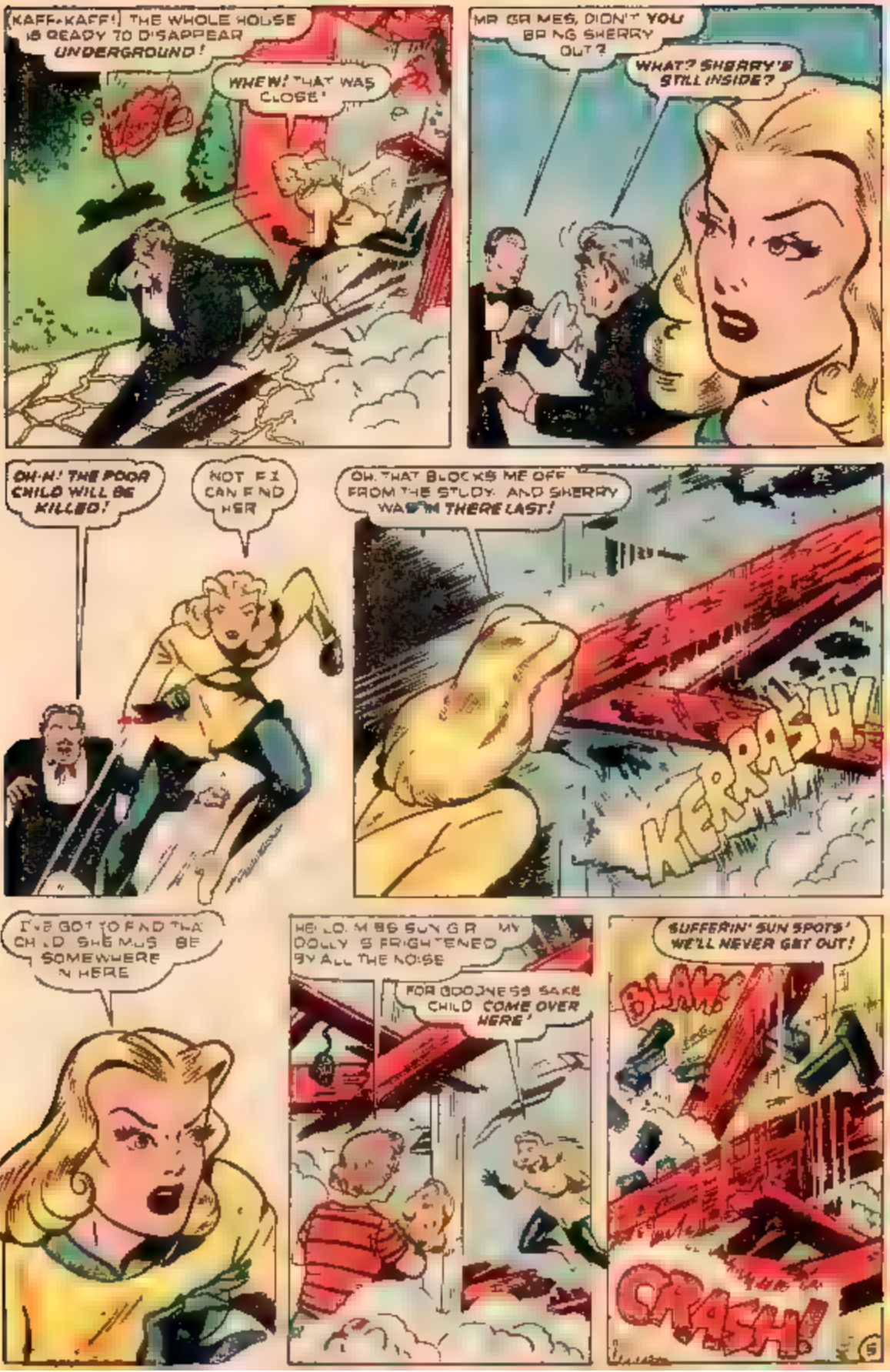
SUN GIRL in "DOOMED-- ONE TOWN!"

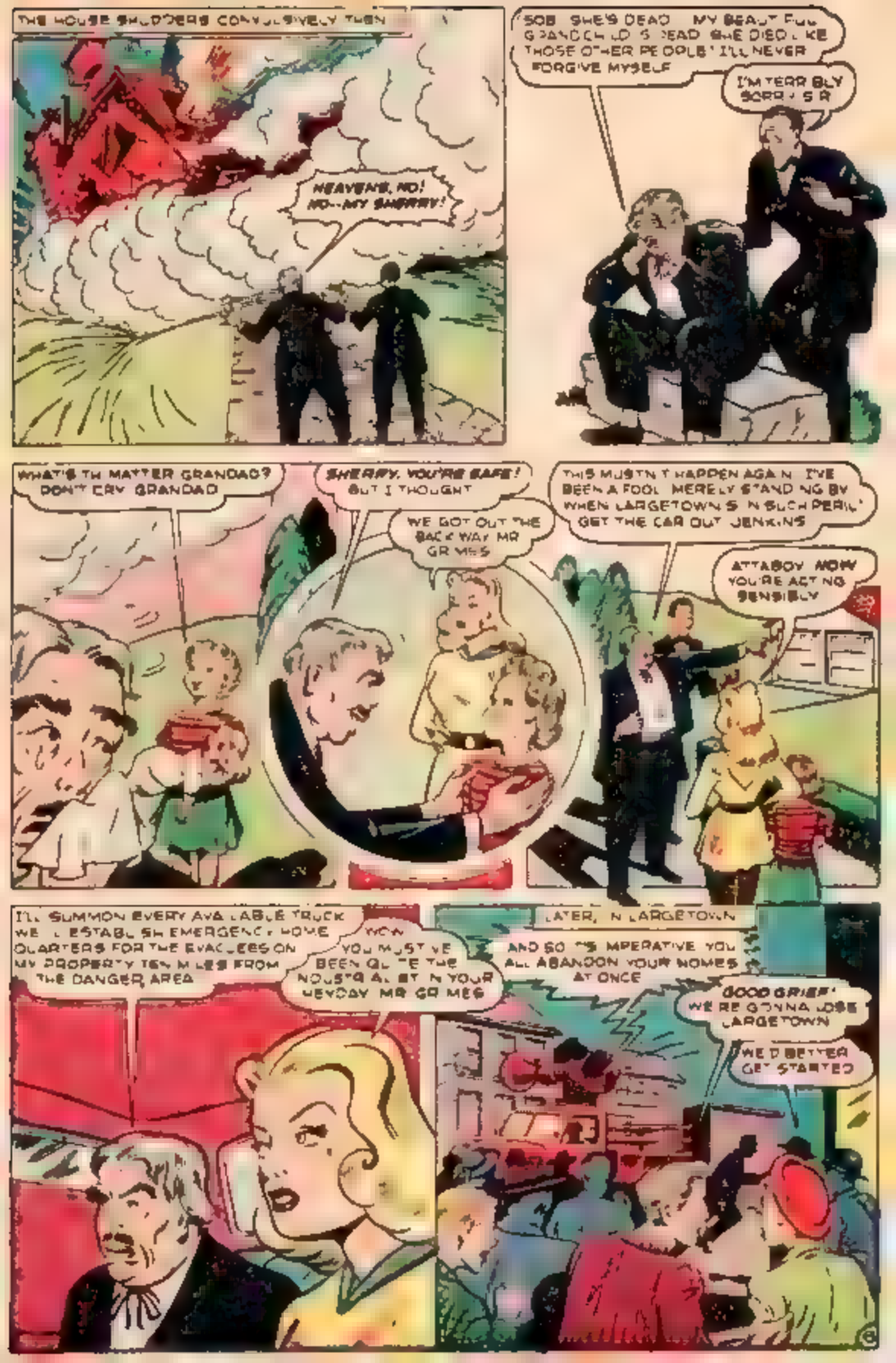

TERRIFIED EYES OF THE PEOPLE OF LARGETOWN, THE
COMPLETE CITY VANISHES-SWALLOWED UP BY A
METHOD BEHIND THIS DISASTER? INTO THIS MAZE OF
DESTRUCTION AND MYSTERY FLASHES
SUN GIRL
TO COMBAT AN UNSEEN HORROR!
LARGETOWN, IN THE CENTER OF
EVER WATCHFUL FOR THREATS
OF DESTRUCTION, SUN GIRL
RACES INTO VIEW AND
BY THUNDER
THE WORLD IS
COMING
APART!
DON'T STAND THERE GAPING
SUMMON THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
AND CALL THE HOSPITAL

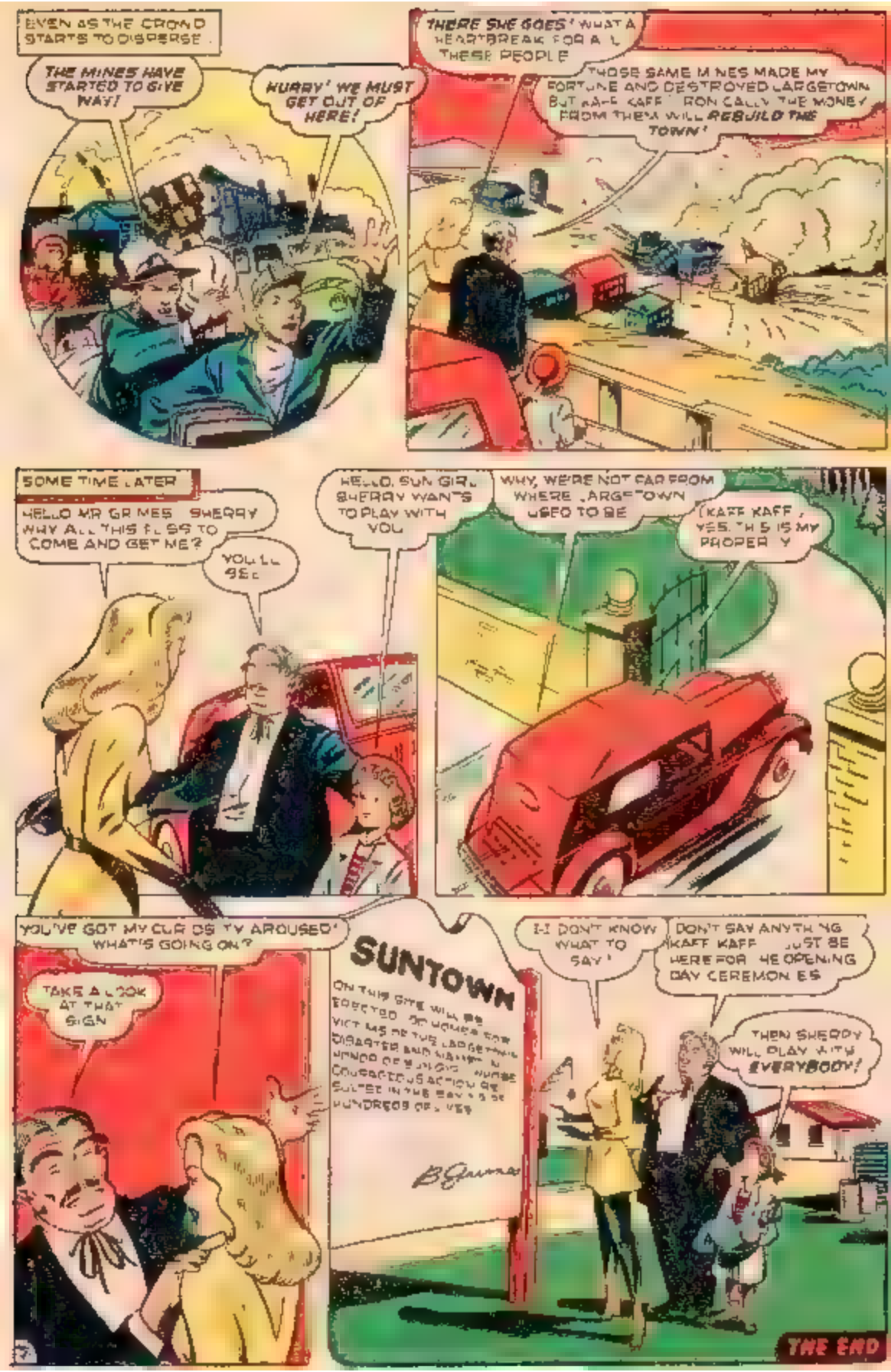
KARR-OOM!
THOSE POOR PEOPLE TRAPPED INSIDE
NO SECONDS ARE LOST IN RESCUE OPERATIONS
EASY, OLD-TIMER! WE'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN A JIFFY!
O-OH
HERE COMES OLD MAN GRIMES HE OWNS WHAT'S LEFT OF THE HOUSE AN MOST OF THE PROPERTY AROUND LARGETOWN
IKAFF KAFF, MOST DREADFUL MOST DREADFUL
THOSE ABANDONED COAL MINE TUNNELS UNDER THE HOUSE GAVE WAY!
INDEED! (KAFF KAFF) PARDON ME
I OWNED THOSE MINES THEY WERE WELL SHORED UP KAFF IT COULDN'T BE
THEY'VE BEEN NEGLECTED FOR TWENTY YEARS THE TIMBERS ROTTED AWAY
GRANDAD GRANDAD YOU PROMISED TO PLAY WITH ME YOU PROMISED, GRANDAD
AH SHERRY DEAR KAFF! SO I DID YES, WE'LL GO
OF ALL THE NUMERICAL NERVE! TWO PEOPLE KILLED AND OTHERS DYING AND THE GREAT MR GRIMES GOES HOME TO PLAY WITH HIS GRANDCHILD!


LATER, OUTS DE LARGETOWN...
WELL F GRIMES DOESN'T TAKE AN NTEREST Z WILL SOMEONE SHOULD HAVE EYAM NED THOSE ABANDONED MINES A LONG TME AGO
IT'S A WONDER THIS OLD ELEVATOR ST LL WORKS! HMM BETTER TAKE T EASY SOUNDS LIKE IT'S READY TO DISINTEGRATE
AND DEEP N THE M NE...
PAH THIS WOOD SHOR NG CRUMBLES AT THE TOUCH! WHAT'S THAT?
CRASH!
SUFFERIN' SUFIS! THAT CAVE IN ALMOST GOT ME!
THE WHOLE BUSINESS IS READY TO COLLAPSE AND LARGETOWN WITH IT I'D BETTER WARN THE PEOPLE
IN THE EDITOR AL OFFICE OF THE LARGETOWN PRESS..
OLD MAN GRIMES SN T GOING TO LKE THIS WARN NG YOU WANT ME TO PR NT, SUN GIRL
FORGET HE OLD DUDDY D DDY PRINT IT!
LATER, WHEN THE NEWSPAPER HITS THE STREET...
WHAT'S THIS? RIGHT NEX TO MY WARN NG GR MES PRINTS A DEN AL CLAIMING WHAT I SA D S BOSH!
3

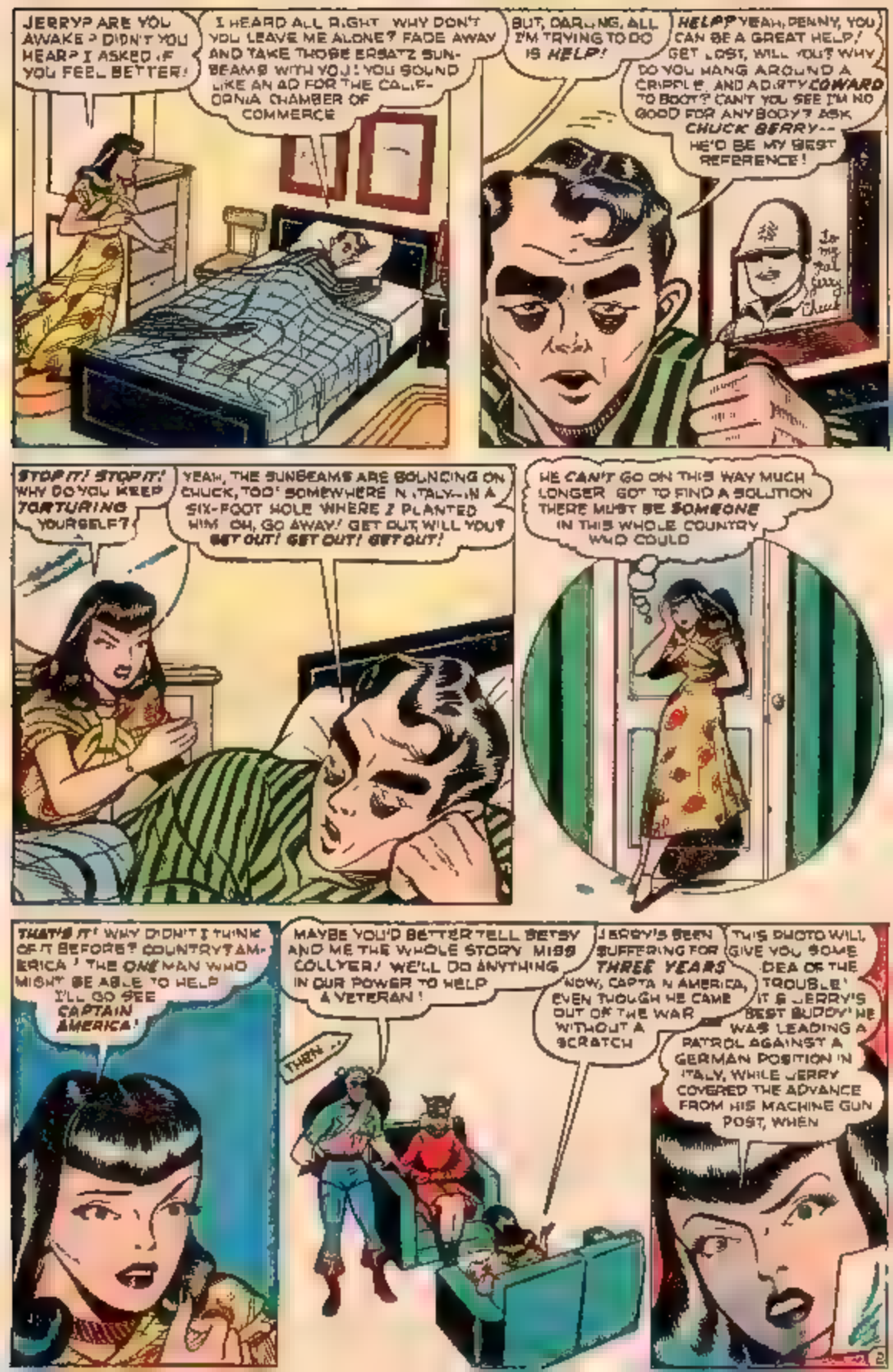
THE TIME HAS COME FOR A SHOWDOWN
JENKINS! WHAT IS THIS?
PLEASE MISS
KAFF KAFF INDEED, MISS! HMM?
SHERRY WANTS TO PLAY
THAT'S RIGHT UNDER THIS HOUSE WHAT'S THAT?
PLASTER--THE CEILING'S CRACKING!
SHERRY! SHERRY--
LET'S GET OUT OR WE'LL BE BURIED ALIVE!


KAFF-KAFF! THE WHOLE HOUSE IS READY TO D'SAPPEAR UNDERGROUND!
WHEW! THAT WAS CLOSE!
MR GRIMES, DIDN'T YOU BRING SHERRY OUT?
WHAT? SHERRY'S STILL INSIDE?
OH-H! THE POOR CHILD WILL BE KILLED!
NOT IF I CAN FIND HER
OH, THAT BLOCKS ME OFF FROM THE STUDY. AND SHERRY WAS IN THERE LAST!
KERRASH!
I'VE GOT TO FIND THE CHILD SHE MUST BE SOMEWHERE IN HERE
HELLO, MISS SUNGRIM. MY DOLLY'S FRIGHTENED BY ALL THE NOISE
FOR GOODNESS SAKE CHILD COME OVER HERE!
SUFFERIN' SUN SPOTS! WE'LL NEVER GET OUT!
BLAM!
CRASH!

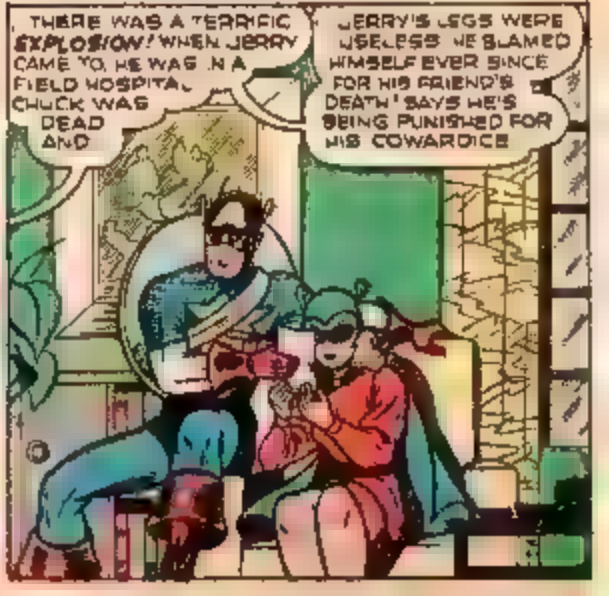

THE HOUSE SHUDDERS CONVULSIVELY THEN
HEAVENS, NO! NO--MY SHERRY!
SOB SHE'S DEAD MY BEAUTIFUL GRANDCHILD'S DEAD SHE DIED LIKE THOSE OTHER PEOPLE! I'LL NEVER FORGIVE MYSELF
I'M TERRIBLY SORRY SIR
WHAT'S TH MATTER GRANDAD? DON'T CRY GRANDAD
SHERRY, YOU'RE SAFE! BUT I THOUGHT
WE GOT OUT THE BACK WAY MR GRIMES
THIS MUSTN'T HAPPEN AGAIN I'VE BEEN A FOOL MERELY STANDING BY WHEN LARGETOWN'S IN SUCH PERIL! GET THE CAR OUT JENKINS
ATTABOY NOW YOU'RE ACTING SENSIBLY
I'LL SUMMON EVERY AVAILABLE TRUCK WE'LL ESTABLISH EMERGENCY HOME QUARTERS FOR THE EVACUEES ON MY PROPERTY TEN MILES FROM THE DANGER AREA
WOW YOU MUST'VE BEEN QUITE THE NOUSTRALIAN IN YOUR HEYDAY MR GRIMES
LATER, IN LARGETOWN
AND SO IT'S IMPERATIVE YOU ALL ABANDON YOUR HOMES AT ONCE
GOOD GRIEF! WE'RE GONNA LOSE LARGETOWN
WE'D BETTER GET STARTED

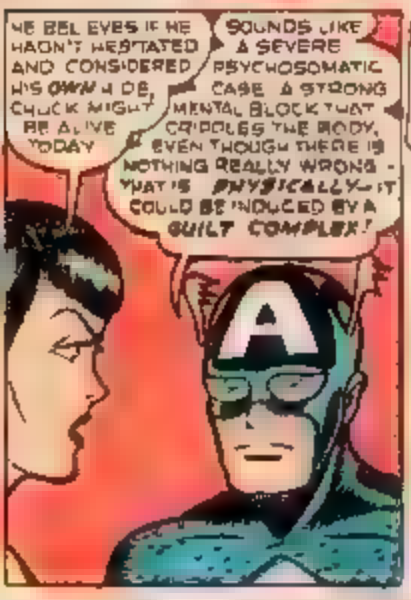

EVEN AS THE CROWD STARTS TO DISPERSE
THE MINES HAVE STARTED TO GIVE WAY!
HURRY! WE MUST GET OUT OF HERE!
THERE SHE GOES! WHAT A HEARTBREAK FOR ALL THESE PEOPLE
THOSE SAME MINES MADE MY FORTUNE AND DESTROYED LARGETOWN BUT KAFF KAFF RON CALLY THE MONEY FROM THEM WILL REBUILD THE TOWN!
SOME TIME LATER
HELLO MR GRIMES SHERRY WHY ALL THIS FUSS TO COME AND GET ME?
YOU'LL SEE
HELLO, SUN GIRL SHERRY WANTS TO PLAY WITH YOU
WHY, WE'RE NOT FAR FROM WHERE LARGETOWN USED TO BE
(KAFF KAFF, YES. THIS IS MY PROPERTY
YOU'VE GOT MY CURIOSITY AROUSED! WHAT'S GOING ON?
TAKE A LOOK AT THAT SIGN
SUNTOWN
ON THIS SITE WILL BE ERECTED 300 HOMES FOR VICTIMS OF THE LARGETOWN DISASTER AND WORK IS UNDER WAY UNDER THE CONSTRUCTION SUPERVISION OF SUPERINTENDENT GRIMES OF HUNDREDS OF MEN
B Grimes
H-I DON'T KNOW WHAT TO SAY!
DON'T SAY ANYTHING (KAFF KAFF) JUST BE HERE FOR THE OPENING DAY CEREMONIES
THEN SHERRY WILL PLAY WITH EVERYBODY!
THE END

CAPTAIN AMERICA
"THE WOUND NO MAN COULD SEE!"
I KEEP SEEING CHUCK! CHUCK! HE'S DEAD! DEAD! AND I KILLED HIM! IT WAS MY FAULT! MINE!
BETSY THAT VETERAN IS SUFFERING FROM A SEVERE PHYCHOSOMATIC SHOCK! WE MUST HELP HIM!
BUT HOW?
HOW? YES HOW! THAT WAS THE ASTOUNDING PROBLEM THAT CONFRONTED CAPTAIN AMERICA AS A MAN LAY STARING AT THE CEILING, REFUSING TO TALK — REFUSING TO LIVE — PUNISHING HIMSELF FOR AN UNFORGIVABLE CRIME! WHY? WHY? WHY?
3447
THERE ARE MANY KINDS OF WOUNDS. PHYSICAL AND MENTAL. BUT THERE ARE INJURIES OF THE SOUL TOO, THAT PLAGUE A MAN'S SPIRIT, TORTURING HIM UNTIL HE IS HELPLESS. SUCH IS THE NATURE OF THE ILLNESS THAT HAS KEPT JERRY MALCOLM A BEDRIDDEN CRIPPLE FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS!
H'LO, JERRY, FEELING BETTER TODAY? THE SUN'S WONDERFUL OUTSHINING DOWN IN BIG BUNCHES ON HOLLYWOOD AND VINE!


JERRY? ARE YOU AWAKE? DIDN'T YOU HEAR? I ASKED IF YOU FEEL BETTER!
I HEARD ALL RIGHT WHY DON'T YOU LEAVE ME ALONE? FADE AWAY AND TAKE THOSE ERSATZ SUNBEAMS WITH YOU! YOU SOUND LIKE AN AD FOR THE CALIFORNIA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
BUT, DARLING, ALL I'M TRYING TO DO IS HELP!
HELP? YEAH, PENNY, YOU CAN BE A GREAT HELP! GET LOST, WILL YOU? WHY DO YOU HANG AROUND A CRIPPLE, AND A DIRTY COWARD TO BOOT? CAN'T YOU SEE I'M NO GOOD FOR ANYBODY? ASK CHUCK BERRY-- HE'D BE MY BEST REFERENCE!
To my pal Jerry, Chuck
STOP IT! STOP IT! WHY DO YOU KEEP TORTURING YOURSELF?
YEAH, THE SUNBEAMS ARE BOUNCING ON CHUCK, TOO! SOMEWHERE IN ITALY--IN A SIX-FOOT HOLE WHERE I PLANTED HIM! OH, GO AWAY! GET OUT, WILL YOU? GET OUT! GET OUT! GET OUT!
HE CAN'T GO ON THIS WAY MUCH LONGER! GOT TO FIND A SOLUTION! THERE MUST BE SOMEONE IN THIS WHOLE COUNTRY WHO COULD
THAT'S IT! WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF IT BEFORE? COUNTRY! AMERICA! THE ONE MAN WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP! I'LL GO SEE CAPTAIN AMERICA!
MAYBE YOU'D BETTER TELL BETSY AND ME THE WHOLE STORY, MISS COLLYER! WE'LL DO ANYTHING IN OUR POWER TO HELP A VETERAN!
THEN...
JERRY'S BEEN SUFFERING FOR THREE YEARS NOW, CAPTAIN AMERICA, EVEN THOUGH HE CAME OUT OF THE WAR WITHOUT A SCRATCH
THIS PHOTO WILL GIVE YOU SOME IDEA OF THE TROUBLE! IT'S JERRY'S BEST BUDDY! HE WAS LEADING A PATROL AGAINST A GERMAN POSITION IN ITALY, WHILE JERRY COVERED THE ADVANCE FROM HIS MACHINE GUN POST, WHEN
2

SUDDENLY, CHUCK FELL, GRAVELY WOUNDED! JERRY LEFT HIS POST AND STARTED TO CRAWL TO HIS FRIEND'S AID. THEN HE WAS PINNED DOWN BY DEVASTATING CROSS FIRE BEFORE JERRY COULD MAKE UP HIS MIND TO GO ON OR WITHDRAW
To my pal Jerry Chuck


THERE WAS A TERRIFIC EXPLOSION! WHEN JERRY CAME TO, HE WAS IN A FIELD HOSPITAL. CHUCK WAS DEAD AND
JERRY'S LEGS WERE USELESS. HE BLAMED HIMSELF EVER SINCE FOR HIS FRIEND'S DEATH! SAYS HE'S BEING PUNISHED FOR HIS COWARDICE


HE BELIEVES IF HE HADN'T HESITATED AND CONSIDERED HIS OWN NEED, CHUCK MIGHT BE ALIVE TODAY
SOUNDS LIKE A SEVERE PSYCHOSOMATIC CASE. A STRONG MENTAL BLOCK THAT CRIPPLES THE BODY, EVEN THOUGH THERE IS NOTHING REALLY WRONG - THAT'S PHYSICALLY - IT COULD BE INDUCED BY A GUILT COMPLEX!

THAT WAS THE DIAGNOSIS OF THE ARMY'S TOP MEDICAL MEN. BUT THERE MUST BE SOMETHING THAT CAN BE DONE TO BREAK THAT BLOCK!
HOW CAN BETSY AND I POSSIBLY HELP?

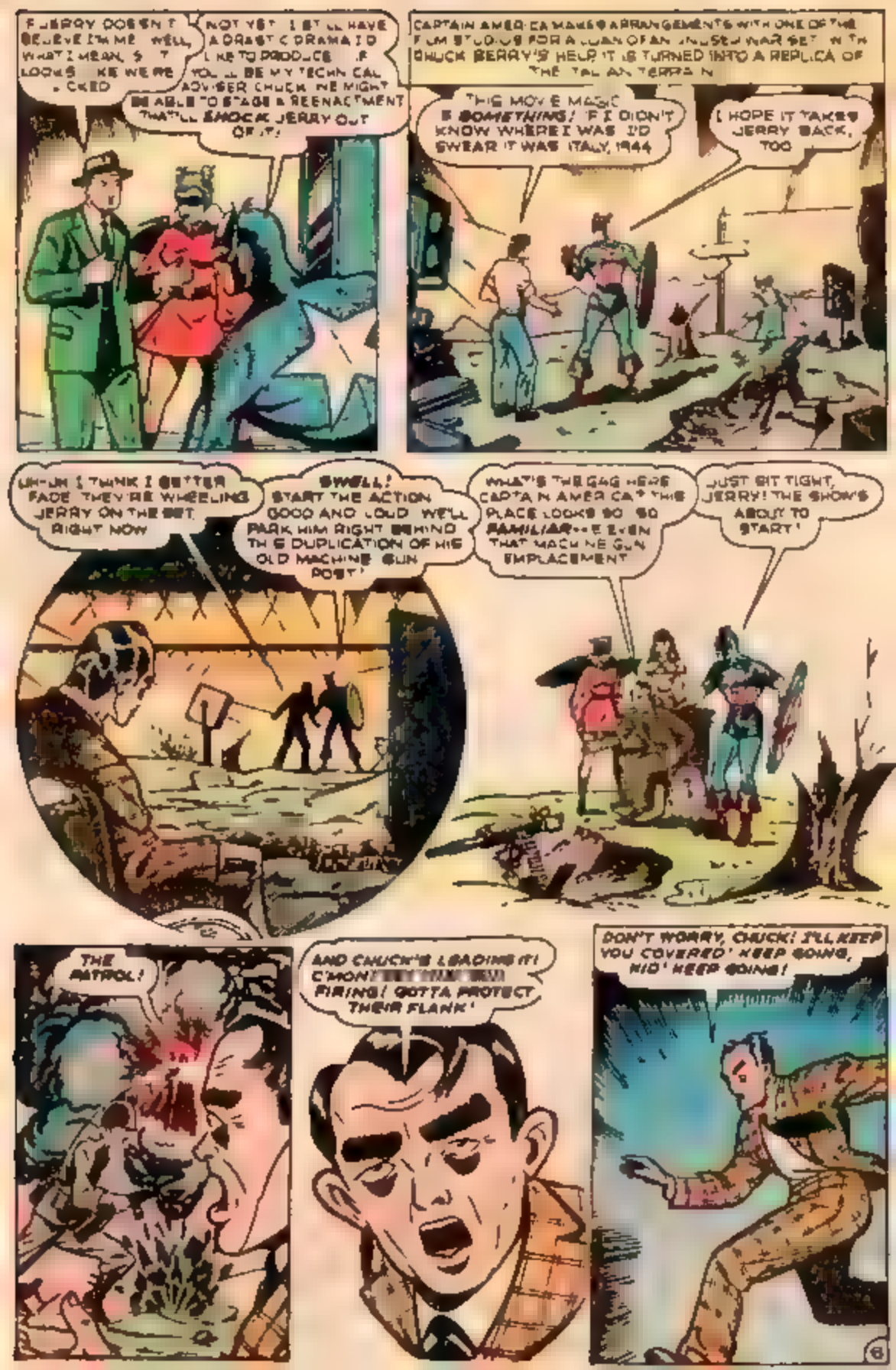
JERRY DOLIZES YOU TWO! YOU REPRESENT THE TOPS IN COURAGE TO HIM. PERHAPS, IF YOU VISITED HIM, IT MIGHT HELP A LITTLE! DON'T YOU SEE? I'D TRY ANYTHING TO MAKE HIM WALK AND STOP THIS COMPLEX FROM GNAWING AT HIS SANITY!

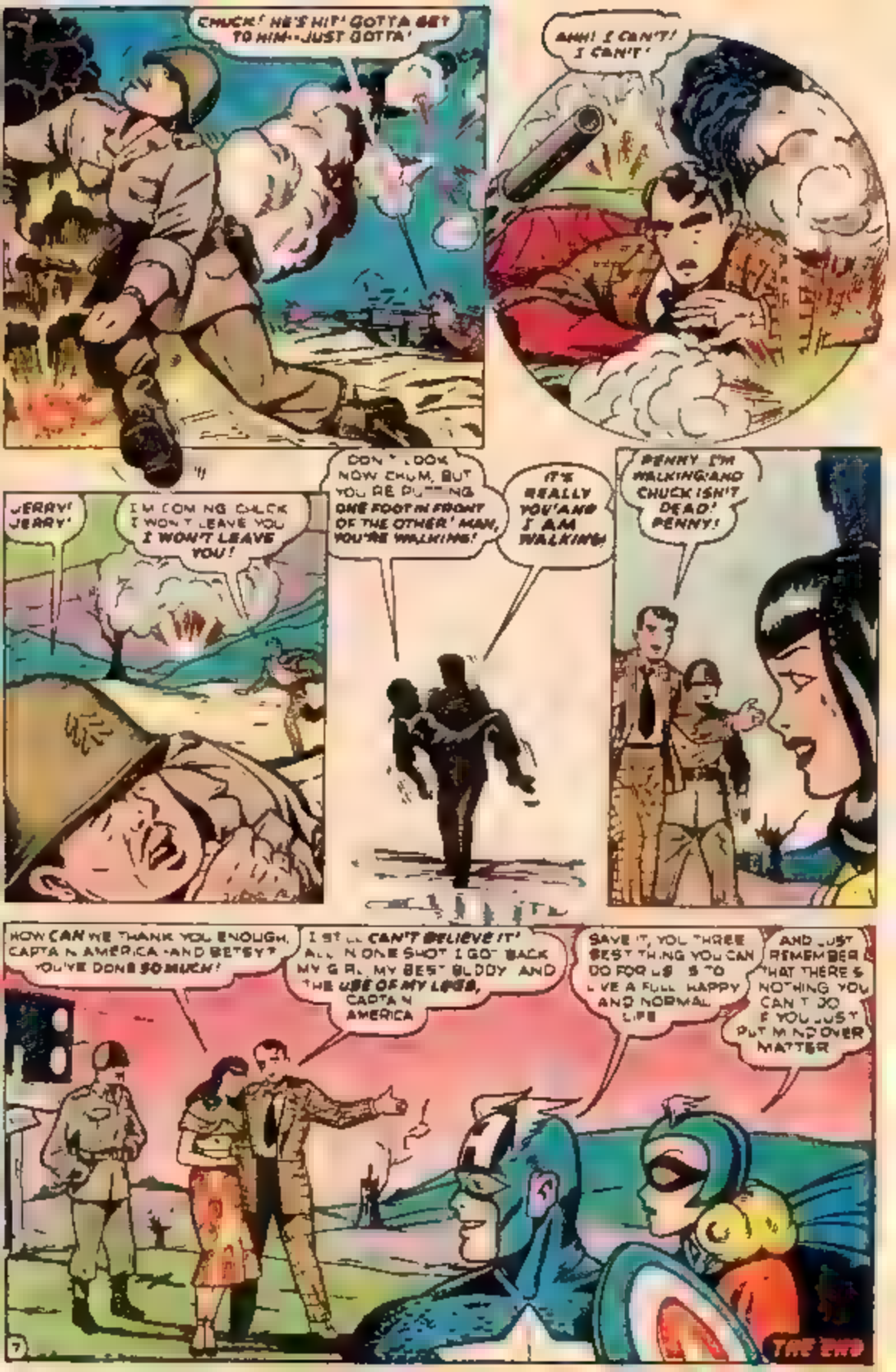
I SEE. WELL, BETSY, WE MIGHT AS WELL PAY A CALL ON EX-SERGEANT JERRY MALCOLM-- NOW!

LATER..
I HAVE A SURPRISE FOR YOU, JERRY! I BROUGHT SOME COMPANY!
OH, NO! YOU'LL BE CHARGING ADMISSION NEXT! LOOK, PENNY, I DON'T WANT TO SEE ANYONE--NOT EVEN YOU! NOW TAKE YOUR COMPANY AND GO THROW THEM A BANQUET IN YELLOWSTONE PARK!

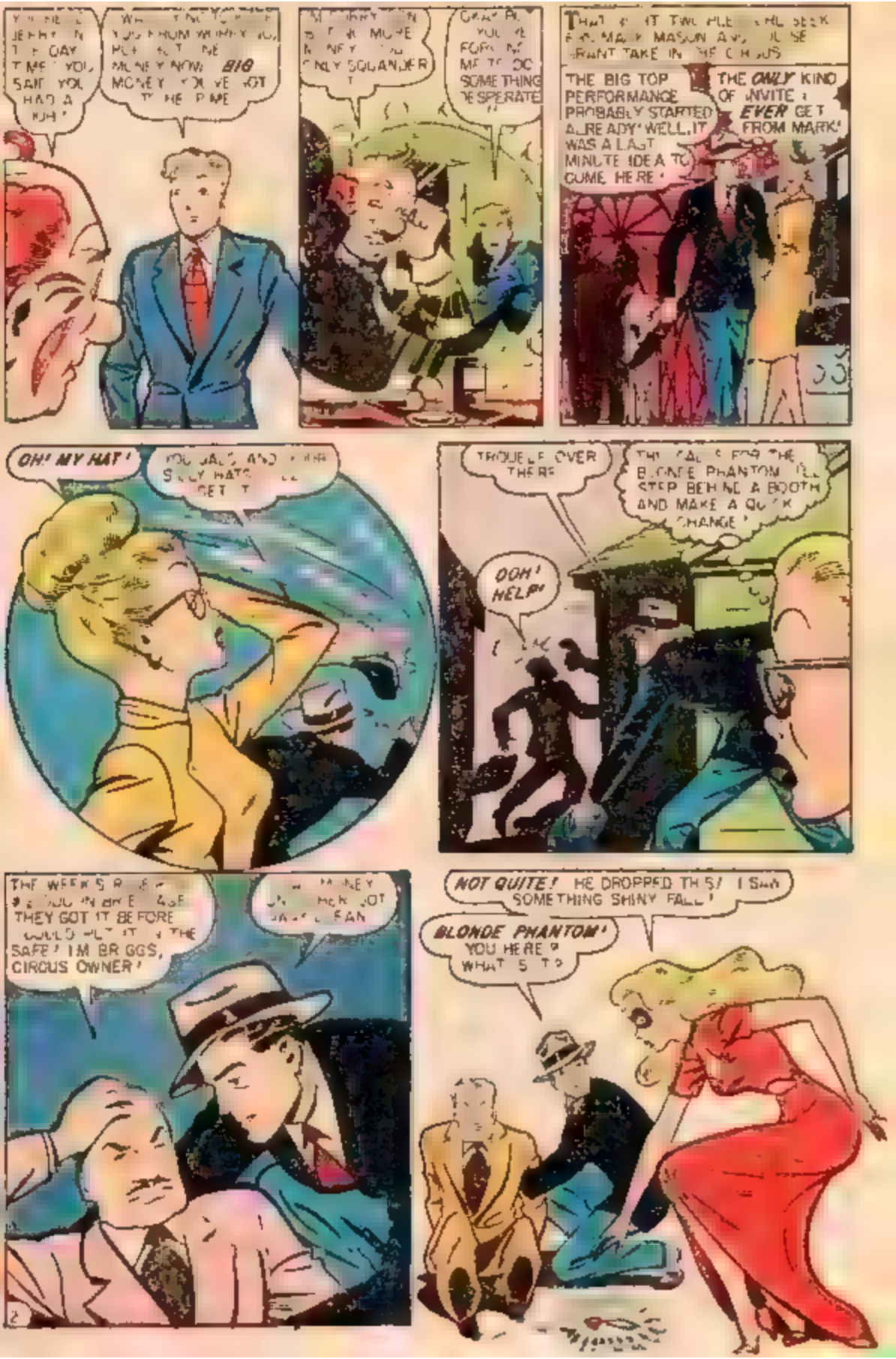
SORRY PAL BUT PICNICKING IN THE PARK ISN'T MY IDEA OF A DATE
CAPTAIN AMERICA! BETSY! GEE I'D KNOWN YOU WERE THE VISITORS I'D HAVE TROTTED OUT THE PLUSH CARPET
GEE
SINCE YOU'RE HANDING OUT THE KEYS TO YOUR CITY I THOUGHT YOU MIGHT TAKE US ON A PERSONALLY CONDUCTED TOUR MY ARM SIR
B BUT D DN'T PENNY TELL YOU? I CAN'T WALK!
NONSENSE! NOBODY EVER REFUSED A B D TO PROMENADE WITH BETSY C MON WE'LL JACK YOU UP LIKE A JET PROPELLED JOB TELL YOU HIT UP SPEED
THERE YOU GO!
THOSE WORDS THEY
YOU KILLED
YOU KILL
CHUCK!
I CAN'T! I CAN'T! OH CHUCK
90? CHESTER M BERRY IS NOT DEAD AT LEAST ACCORDING TO OUR RECORDS SOMEBODY MUST BE BRINGING YOU CAPTAIN AMERICA
THIS PUTS A NEW COMPLEXION ON THE CASE
WE'RE GOING TO FIND CHUCK BERRY!

EVERY MINUTE COUNTS!
CURTAIN!
THEN, A LITTLE LATER
HIYA, JERRY REMEMBER ME?
CHUCK! CHUCK!
I'M GOING CRAZY! IMAGINING THINGS... SEEING THINGS... CHUCK!
NO, YOU'RE NOT, JERRY. WE ALL SEE WHAT YOU SEE. THIS CHUCK AND WE WANT YOU TO SEE FOR YOURSELF
SO THAT'S IT! A CHEAP TRICK TO MAKE ME WALK. BUT YOU CAN'T FOOL ME. CHUCK'S DEAD. THAT PHONY ACTOR'S ARRANGED FOR HIM. BUT CHUCK'S DEAD! GET OUT! ALL OF YOU. YOU CAN'T FOOL ME! CHUCK'S DEAD!


JERRY DOESN'T BELIEVE I'M ME... WELL, WHAT I MEAN, S... LOOKS... KE WE'RE ...CKED
NOT YET... I ET'LL HAVE A DRAST C DRAMA I'D L KE TO PRODUCE... F YOU... LL BE MY TECHN CAL ADVISER CHUCK... NE MIGHT BE ABLE TO STAGE A REENACTMENT THAT'LL SHOCK JERRY OUT OF IT!
CAPTAIN AMER CA MAKES ARRANGEMENTS WITH ONE OF THE FILM STUDIOS FOR A LOAN OF AN ...USED WAR SET... N TH CHUCK BERRY'S HELP IT IS TURNED INTO A REPLICA OF THE TAL AN TERRA N
THIS MOV E MAGIC S SOMETHING! IF I DIDN'T KNOW WHERE I WAS I'D SWEAR IT WAS ITALY, 1944
I HOPE IT TAKES JERRY BACK, TOO
UH-UH I THINK I BETTER FADE THEY'RE WHEELING JERRY ON THE SET RIGHT NOW
SWELL! START THE ACTION GOOD AND LOUD WE'LL PARK HIM RIGHT BEHIND TH S DUPLICATION OF HIS OLD MACHINE GUN POST!
WHAT'S THE GAG HERE CAPTA N AMER CA? THIS PLACE LOOKS SO SO FAMILIAR--E EVEN THAT MACH NE GUN EMPLACEMENT
JUST SIT TIGHT, JERRY! THE SHOW'S ABOUT TO START!
THE PATROL!
AND CHUCK'S LEADING IT! C'MON FIRING! GOTTA PROTECT THEIR FLANK!
DON'T WORRY, CHUCK! I'LL KEEP YOU COVERED! KEEP GOING, KID! KEEP GOING!


CHUCK! HE'S HIT! GOTTA GET TO HIM--JUST GOTTA!
AHH! I CAN'T! I CAN'T!
JERRY! JERRY!
I'M COMING CHUCK I WON'T LEAVE YOU I WON'T LEAVE YOU!
DON'T LOOK NOW CHUM, BUT YOU'RE PUTTING ONE FOOT IN FRONT OF THE OTHER! MAN, YOU'RE WALKING!
IT'S REALLY YOU! AND I AM WALKING!
PENNY I'M WALKING! AND CHUCK ISN'T DEAD! PENNY!
HOW CAN WE THANK YOU ENOUGH, CAPTAIN AMERICA--AND BETSY? YOU'VE DONE SO MUCH!
I STILL CAN'T BELIEVE IT! ALL IN ONE SHOT I GOT BACK MY GIRL, MY BEST BUDDY AND THE USE OF MY LEGS, CAPTAIN AMERICA
SAVE IT, YOU THREE BEST THING YOU CAN DO FOR US IS TO LIVE A FULL HAPPY AND NORMAL LIFE
AND JUST REMEMBER THAT THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN'T DO IF YOU JUST PUT MIND OVER MATTER
THE END
7

BLONDE PHANTOM
AND THE CLOWN WHO COULDN'T LAUGH!
MUSIC! THRILLS! LAUGHTER! THAT'S WHAT YOU EXPECT UNDER THE BIG TOP! BUT, WHAT WOULD YOU EXPECT TO FIND BEHIND IT?
JEEPO! THINK OF YOUR DUTY! YOU'RE A VETERAN SHOWMAN! YOU CAN'T LET THE CHILDREN DOWN NOW!
POOR JEEPO! HIS NO-GOOD SON'S A THIEF! THAT CERTAINLY IS NOTHING TO CLOWN ABOUT! HA! HA! HA!
NO! NO! I CAN NEVER LAUGH AGAIN! I'M THROUGH! HOW CAN MY MOUTH LAUGH WHEN MY HEART IS CRYING BITTER TEARS?
JEEPO
WHO HAS THE POWER TO MAKE AN AUDIENCE LAUGH UNTIL IT CRIES? WHO IS THE CAUSE OF SUCH MIRTH? NONE OTHER THAN JEEPO, THE WORLD'S FUNNIEST CLOWN!
THAT JEEPO!
HA-HA-HA!
HO-HO-HO!
HA-HA-HA!
THEY'RE STILL LAUGHING! THE ACT WENT OVER BIG TONIGHT!
POP!


THE BIG TOP PERFORMANCE PROBABLY STARTED ALREADY! WELL, IT WAS A LAST MINUTE IDEA TO COME HERE!
THE ONLY KIND OF INVITE I EVER GET FROM MARK!
OH! MY HAT!
TROUBLE OVER THERE!
OOH! HELP!
NOT QUITE! HE DROPPED THIS! I SAW SOMETHING SHINY FALL!
BLONDE PHANTOM! YOU HERE? WHAT'S UP?
CIRCUS OWNER!

THIS GOLD HEART! IT LOOKS AS THOUGH IT WERE PART OF A LOCKET!
PLEASE INVESTIGATE QUIETLY! THE SHOW MUST GO ON!
SOON AFTER
IT LOOKED LIKE AN INSIDE JOB! IT WAS SO NEATLY TIMED!
YES! WE'D BETTER QUESTION THE PERFORMERS!
IN-TERR-DUCHN THE WORLD'S FUNNIEST CLOWN--JEEPO!
LET'S WATCH A MINUTE SAY! JUST REMEMBERED LOST MY SECRETARY, LOUISE!
OH SHE'S PROBABLY IN HERE SOMEWHERE WATCHING THE SHOW.
THE AUDIENCE LAUGHING AT THE ANTICS OF JEEPO, CANNOT SEE THE TEARS STREAMING DOWN THIS PAINTED FACE!
MY HEART'S SO HEAVY IT FEELS LIKE LEAD! JERRY BOY, WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?
HA! HA!
HEE! HEE!
HO! HO!
HO! HO!
HA! HA!
BRAVO!
CALL IT KEEN EYES OR FEMININE INTUITION THE ALERT BLONDE PHANTOM SENSES
JEEPO'S STRAINING FOR LAUGHS SOMETHING'S WRONG AND AFTER A $12,000 ROBBERY, THIS BEARS LOOKING INTO!
3
CAN'T PERFORM ANY LONGER I'LL NEVER LAUGH AGAIN! (SOB!) NEED AIR I'LL WALK AROUND!
JEEPO!
JEEPO! WHAT'S TROUBLING YOU? I'M THE BLONDE PHANTOM AND WANT TO HELP YOU!
IT'S NOTHING JUST A HEADACHE!

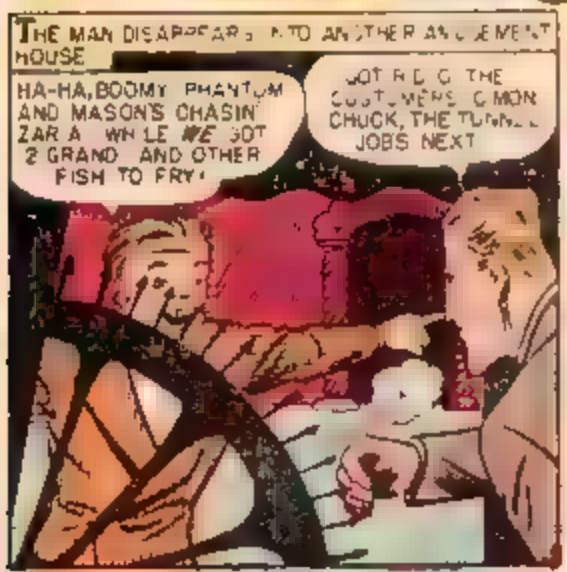
IT SEEMS MORE LIKE A HEARTACHE!
(SOB) OH, MIGHT AS WELL TELL YOU! MY SON WANTED MONEY SAID HE'D DO SOMETHING DESPERATE! BUT I NEVER THOUGHT HE'D STEAL!
WHAT MAKES YOU THINK HE STOLE?
BRIGGS SAID A GOLD HEART WAS FOUND AT THE ROBBERY SCENE IT'S JERRY'S! ZARIA, THE DANCING GIRL, GAVE IT TO HIM! NOW JERRY'S GONE
PLEASE FIND HIM BEFORE HE DOES ANYTHING MORE! I'LL GET HIM THE FINEST LAWYERS! I'LL SPEND EVERY CENT I HAVE ON HIS DEFENSE! TELL HIM THAT! FIND HIM!
YES, JEEPO!
AS SHE IS LEAVING THE HEARTBROKEN CLOWN
FOLLOWED YOU AND JEEPO. THEN LOST YOU IN THE CROWD! WHAT'S UP?
JEEPO THINKS HIS SON ROBBED BRIGGS! MAYBE ZARIA, HIS GIRL FRIEND CAN HELP!
MEANWHILE
YER ACT WAS SWELL, ZARIA, BUT DON'T PUT ON AN ACT WITH ME! I HEARD A GOLD HEART WAS FOUND! IT'S THE ONE YOU USED TO WEAR AS A LOCKET, ISN'T IT? WHO'D YOU GIVE IT TO?
AIN'T I GOOD ENOUGH FOR YA? DON'T PULL NO ROBBERIES LIKE YOUR GOLD HEART FRIEND DOES! IT'S JERRY, ISN'T IT?
HOLD IT! WE'LL ASK THE QUESTIONS
ZARIA, WHAT DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THE ROBBERY? AND WHERE'S JERRY?
I'LL TELL YOU...
4

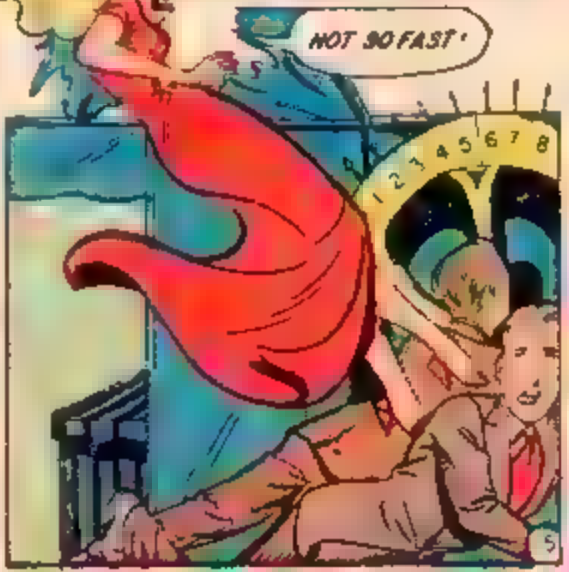
I'LL TELL YOU NOTHING!
LOOK OUT! THAT DUMMY!
HEY, YOU! COME BACK!

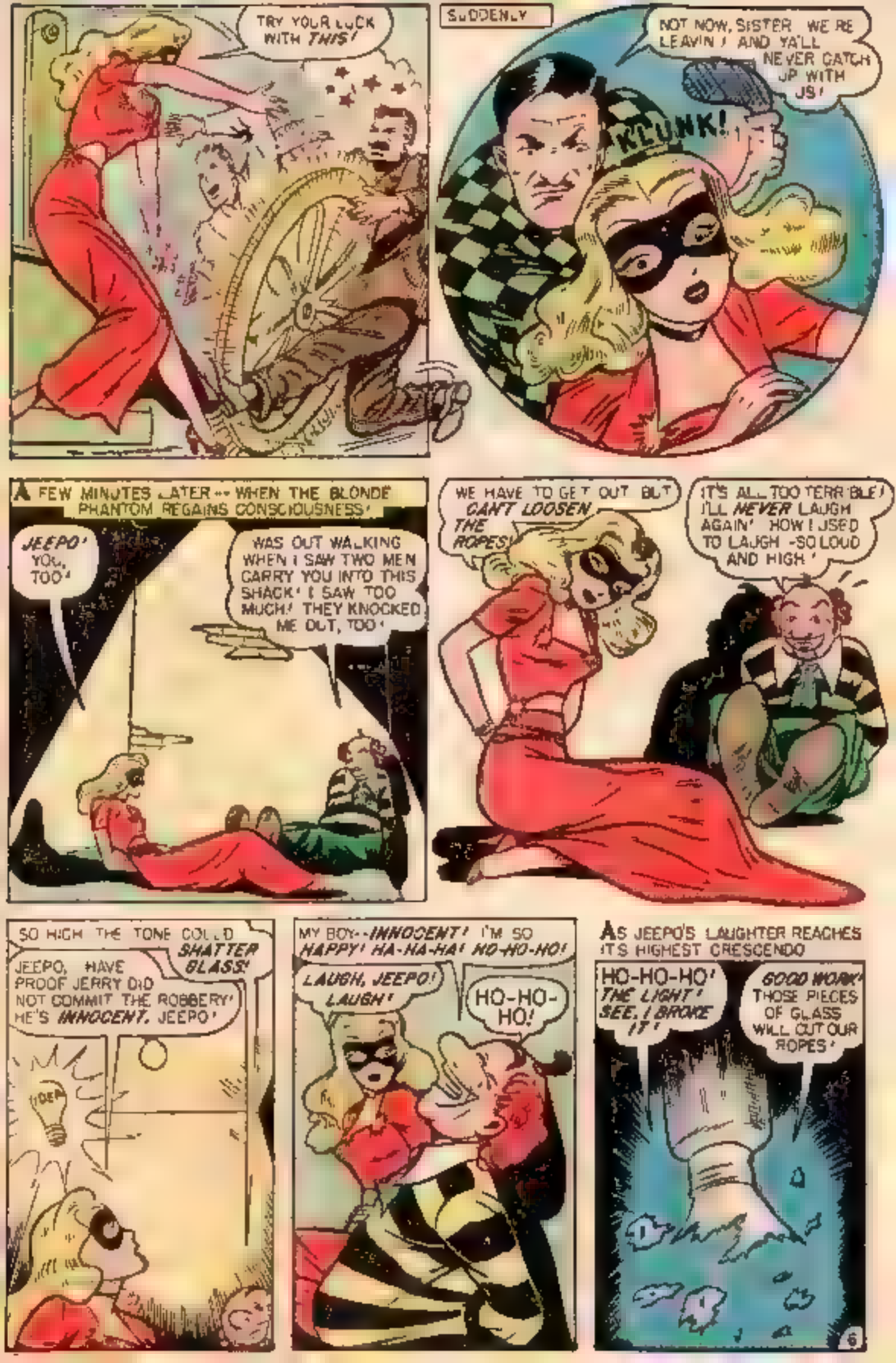
BEFORE THE DOUBLE PHANTOM CAN STOP HER,
HOUSE OF MIRRORS!

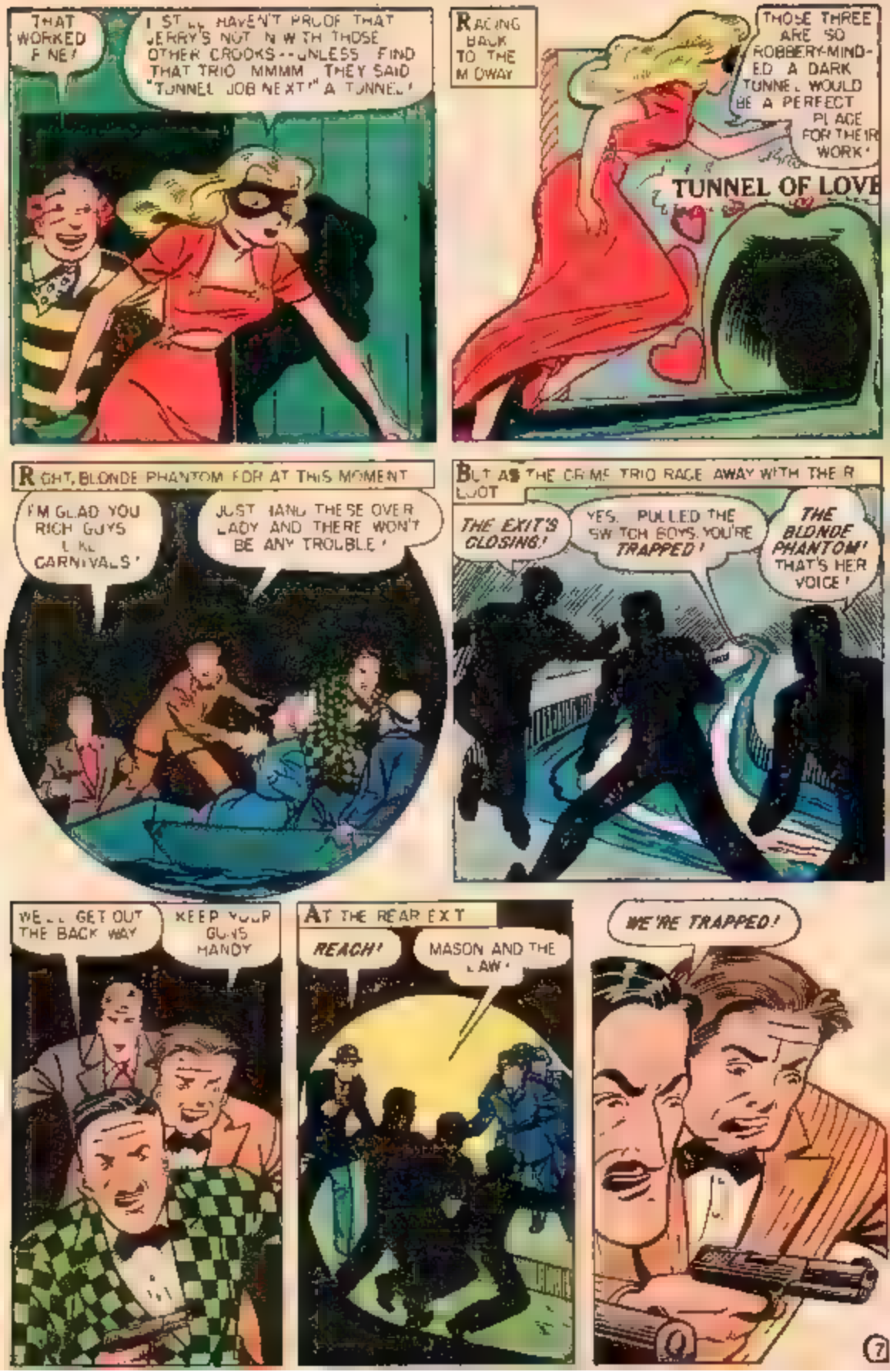
WOW! A HOUSE OF MIRRORS HOW DO WE FIND HER IN HERE?
SHE WENT THIS WAY- I THINK!
OOPS! THAT'S HER OR IS IT?

I'M AFRAID WE'RE GOING TO LOSE ZARA IN THIS MAZE!
YOU CAN TRY CATCHING ZARA MARK I'M INTERESTED IN ANOTHER QUARRY AT THE MOMENT!


THE MAN DISAPPEARS INTO ANOTHER AMUSEMENT HOUSE
HA-HA, BOOMY PHANTOM AND MASON'S CHASIN' ZARA WHILE WE GOT 2 GRAND AND OTHER FISH TO FRY!
GOT RID O THE CUSTOMERS C'MON CHUCK, THE TURNIP JOBS NEXT


NOT SO FAST!
1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8


TRY YOUR LUCK WITH THIS!
SUDDENLY
NOT NOW, SISTER WE RE LEAVIN ! AND YA'LL NEVER CATCH UP WITH US!
KLUNK!
A FEW MINUTES LATER -- WHEN THE BLONDE PHANTOM REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS!
JEEPO! YOU, TOO!
WAS OUT WALKING WHEN I SAW TWO MEN CARRY YOU INTO THIS SHACK! I SAW TOO MUCH! THEY KNOCKED ME OUT, TOO!
WE HAVE TO GET OUT BUT CAN'T LOOSEN THE ROPES!
IT'S ALL TOO TERRIBLE! I'LL NEVER LAUGH AGAIN! HOW I USED TO LAUGH -SO LOUD AND HIGH!
SO HIGH THE TONE COULD SHATTER GLASS!
JEEPO, HAVE PROOF JERRY DID NOT COMMIT THE ROBBERY! HE'S INNOCENT, JEEPO!
IDEA
MY BOY--INNOCENT! I'M SO HAPPY! HA-HA-HA! HO-HO-HO!
LAUGH, JEEPO! LAUGH!
HO-HO-HO!
AS JEEPO'S LAUGHTER REACHES ITS HIGHEST CRESCENDO
HO-HO-HO! THE LIGHT! SEE, I BROKE IT!
GOOD WORK! THOSE PIECES OF GLASS WILL CUT OUR ROPES!
6


THAT WORKED FINE!
I ST.. HAVEN'T PROOF THAT JERRY'S NOT N W TH THOSE OTHER CROOKS--UNLESS FIND THAT TRIO MMMM THEY SAID "TUNNEL JOB NEXT" A TUNNEL!
RACING BACK TO THE MIDWAY
THOSE THREE ARE SO ROBBERY-MINDED A DARK TUNNEL WOULD BE A PERFECT PLACE FOR THEIR WORK!
TUNNEL OF LOVE
RIGHT, BLONDE PHANTOM FOR AT THIS MOMENT
I'M GLAD YOU RICH GUYS LIKE CARNIVALS!
JUST HAND THESE OVER LADY AND THERE WON'T BE ANY TROUBLE!
BUT AS THE CRIME TRIO RACE AWAY WITH THEIR LOOT
THE EXIT'S CLOSING!
YES, PULLED THE SWITCH BOYS. YOU'RE TRAPPED!
THE BLONDE PHANTOM! THAT'S HER VOICE!
WE'LL GET OUT THE BACK WAY
KEEP YOUR GUNS HANDY
AT THE REAR EXIT
REACH!
MASON AND THE LAW!
WE'RE TRAPPED!
7

BUT...
THEY SAID *BEACH!* GET HEP! YOU'LL BE TAKING ORDERS IN JAIL!
AND A FEW MINUTES LATER...
THAT'S THAT! YOU TIPPED ME OFF JUST IN TIME TO SEW UP THIS SIDE!
SAY, YOU HAD ZARIA IN TOW! WHAT ABOUT HER AND JERRY!
SHE WAS HIDING HIM WHEN I CAUGHT UP WITH HER AMONG THE MIRRORS, SHE FINALLY TALKED!
I WAS AFRAID JERRY WOULD BE ACCUSED!
WE DIDN'T THINK YOU'D BELIEVE I LOST THE GOLD HEART BEFORE THE ROBBERY!
YEH! I FOUND IT AND DROPPED IT WHEN I BLACKJACKED BRIGGS! I WANTED TA GET JERRY AND ZARIA IN A JAM! SHE THREW ME OVER FOR HIM!
I STOPPED YOU IN THE HOUSE OF MIRRORS SO YA'D THINK ZARIA WAS A TRICKY DAME!
THEY WERE TRICKY! THEY TRICKED ME INTO LOSING A THOUSAND BUCKS ON THEIR GAMBLING WHEEL! I NEEDED THE MONEY TO PAY OFF! BUT FROM NOW ON, I'M GOING TO *WORK* FOR A LIVING...
HERE COMES YOUR FATHER! TELL *HIM* THAT!
JERRY TURNS TO HONEST WORK, AND JEEPO LAUGHS HIS HEARTIEST...
HA-HA!
HA-HA-HA!
HO!
HA!
HO-HO HO-HO!
HA!
HA!
HO! HO!
HA-HA-HA! IT WAS A GREAT IDEA OF THE BLONDE PHANTOM'S GETTING JEEPO TO LAUGH AND BREAK THAT LIGHT BULB! *WHAT A GIRL! WHAT A WONDERFUL, BEAUTIFUL...*
ALWAYS RAVING ABOUT THE *BLONDE PHANTOM!* OH, WELL!
THE END
8

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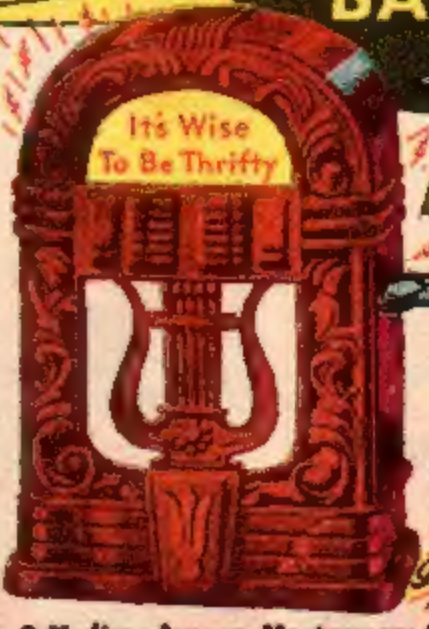

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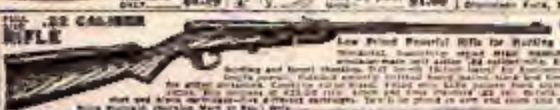

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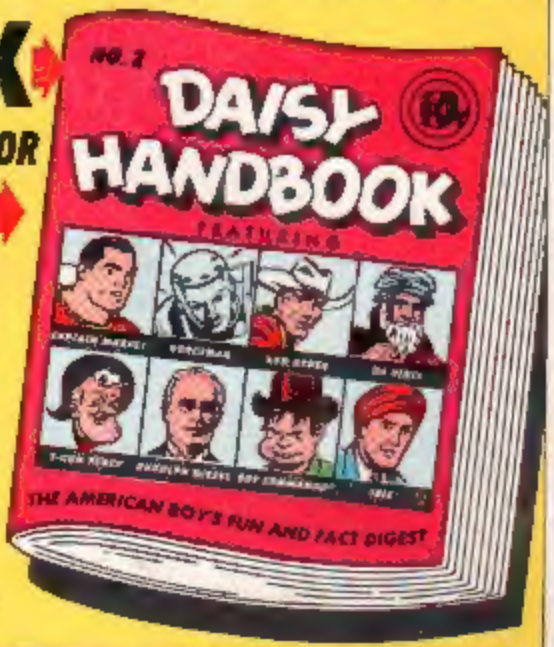

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